おやすみプンプン ❽

浅野いにお

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雑誌 45365-10 小学館

YOUNG SUNDAY COMICS

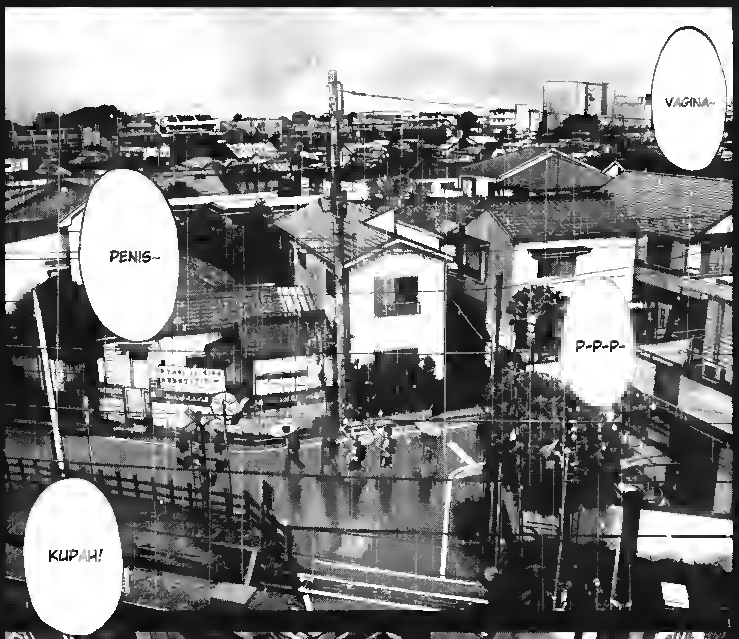
おやすみプンプン ⑧

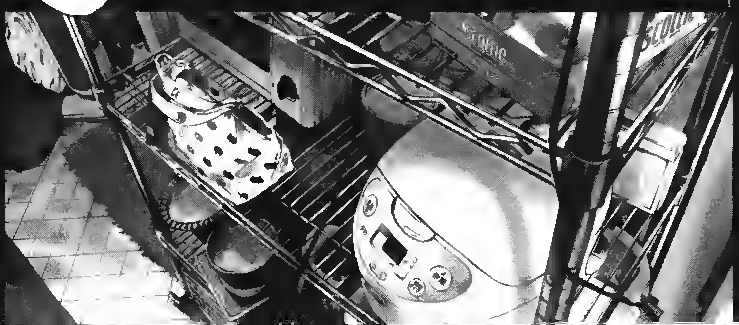
浅野いにお

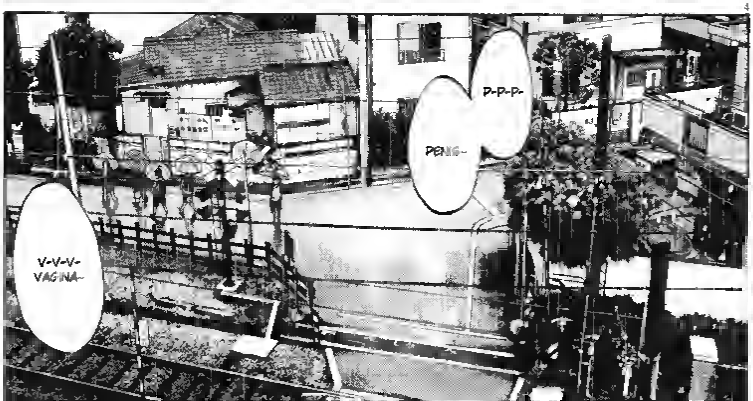
小学館

都立・聖もっこり学園に通う織原きよら（16）はちょっぴりトシなごく普通の高校一年生。ところがある日、ひょんな事件をきっかけに、憧れの犬飼先輩に告白されつき合うことに!! そこに突然幼馴しみの白鳥蘭子が転校してきて……!? 空前のスケールで描かれるドキウキ学園ハートフル食バンバトルファンタシー!!

V-V-V-
P-P-P-
PENIS~


PENIS~
VAGINA~
P-P-P-


KUPAH!

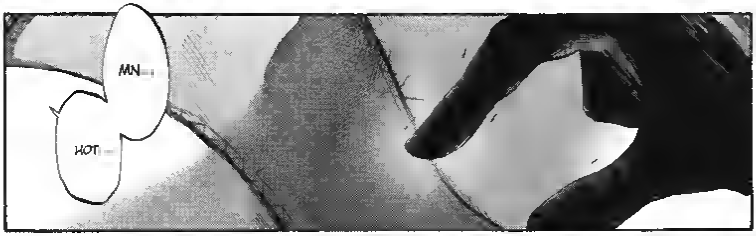

P-P-P-
PENIS-
V-V-V-
VAGINA-

V-V-V
VAGINA
P-P-P-PENIS
KUYAH

...AH,

HAIR.

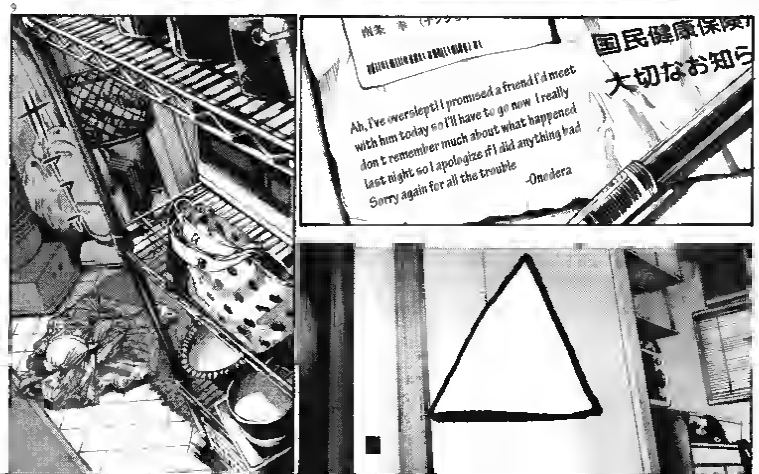
N
MN


MN
HOT

ふぅ

ONODERA?
ARE YOU UP...?
I'VE GOT A REAL BAD HANGOVER SO I'M GOING TO TAKE A COLD SHOWER
BUT WHY DON'T YOU JOIN ME FOR BREAKFAST AFTER THAT?
STILL OUT COLD, HUH...
TALK ABOUT A BAD SLEEPING POSTURE...

UGH...
OWW...


国民健康保険
大切なお知ら
Ah, I've overslept! I promised a friend I'd meet with him today so I'll have to go now. I really don't remember much about what happened last night so I apologize if I did anything bad. Sorry again for all the trouble.
-Onedera

SCORE

"Milky Way"
Nanjou Sachi

THUS, PUNPUN MADE
UP THIS FLIMSY
EXCUSE.

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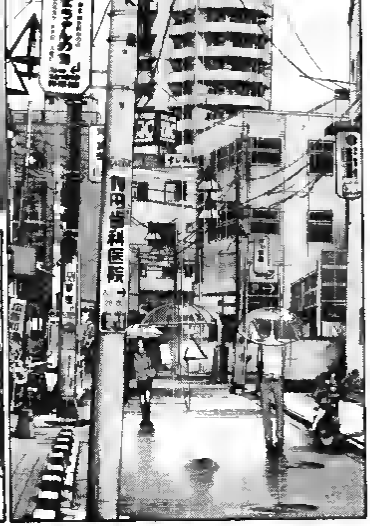
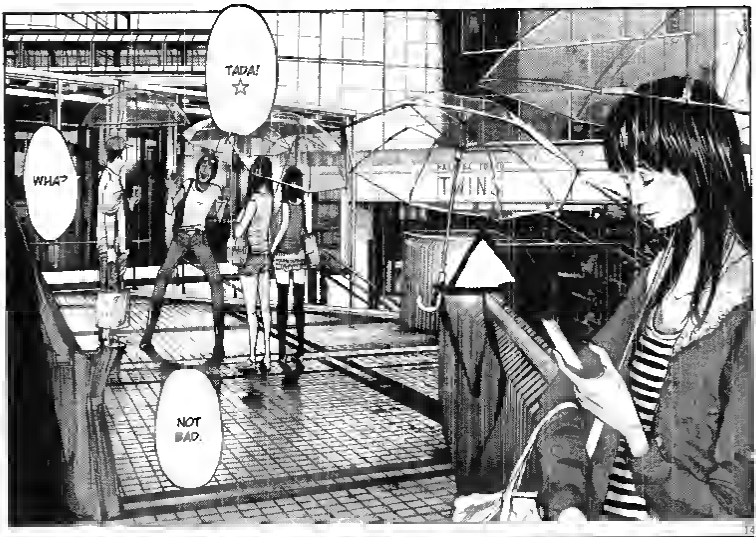
LYING IS BAD. I'M BETTER OFF DEAD. NO DOUBT ABOUT THAT.

WHY AM I SO BAD WITH OTHER PEOPLE?



ALRIGHT, GUYS AND GALS!

SHOW ME DIVINE JUSTICE!



I SAID COME ON, YOU DUMBASS.

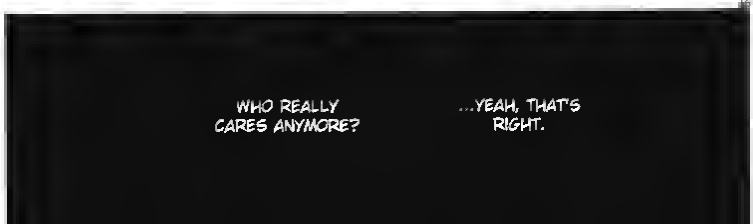
COME ON, JUST DO BOTH OF US A BIG FAVOUR AND KILL ME ALREADY.

AGH, LET'S JUST STOP THIS ALREADY.

THIS IS ALL I'VE BEEN DOING FOR THE PAST FEW MONTHS.

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH.

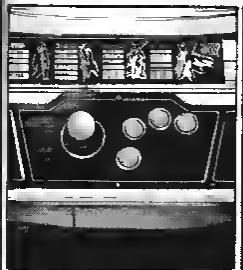
I'M JUST A BORN LOSER.


WHO REALLY CARES ANYMORE?
...YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT.

IT'S NOT AS IF I'D MAGICALLY END UP FINDING AIKO TODAY.

THE NEXT TIME I COME ACROSS A GIRL WITH HER UNDERWEAR EXPOSED LIKE THAT...

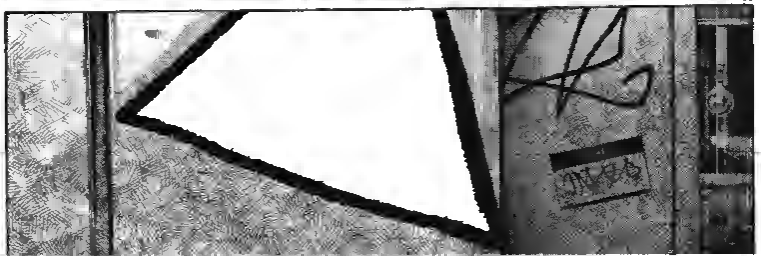
DOESN'T MATTER WHO IT IS, I'LL JUST GO AHEAD AND STICK MY JOHNNY IN HER.

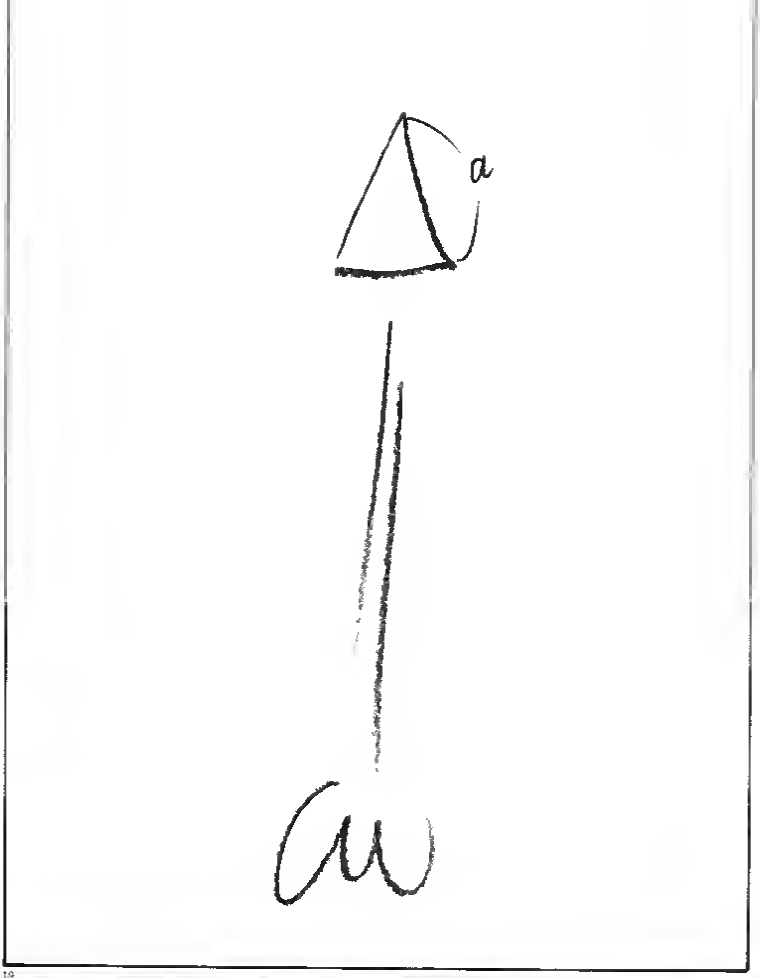


TO HELL WITH EVERYTHING.

WOULD I BE EXECUTED!?
MAYBE THEN THE POLICE WILL ARREST ME?

3F





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BOING!!

Oyasumi punpun 8 Asano Inio

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The story so far:

With a new resolution, Punpun starts living alone on his own. But after meeting a black-haired art major girl, he finds himself in an awkward situation!

Cast of Characters

Onodera Punpun
18 years old, freeter
Incomparably powerful

Nanjou Sachi
22 years old cram-school tutor
The glasses are her energy core and if removed, she will die

Mimura Setsuyuki
18 years old, university student.
"The moon will be dlled red again tonight. !!"

★ Chapter 80 ☆ ★

¥200
コインロッカー

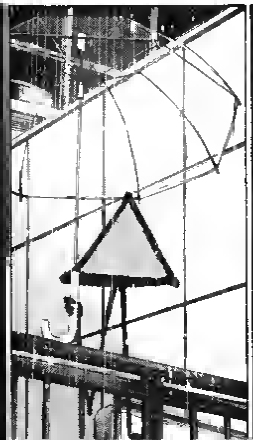
PUNPUN LET OUT A SIGH THAT QUICKLY DISPERSED ITSELF AMONG THE IRRITATION AND WEARINESS OF THE CITY.

AS THE UNPLEASANT HUMIDITY OF THE AIR STUCK TO HIS SKIN,

DILIGENT AS EVER IN ITS TASK, THE RAIN CONTINUED THE DOWNPOUR YET AGAIN TODAY.

WALKING LIKE A SOULESS ZOMBIE THROUGH TOWN FOR DAYS AND DAYS HAD MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO EVEN REMEMBER WHAT HE WAS TRYING TO DO.

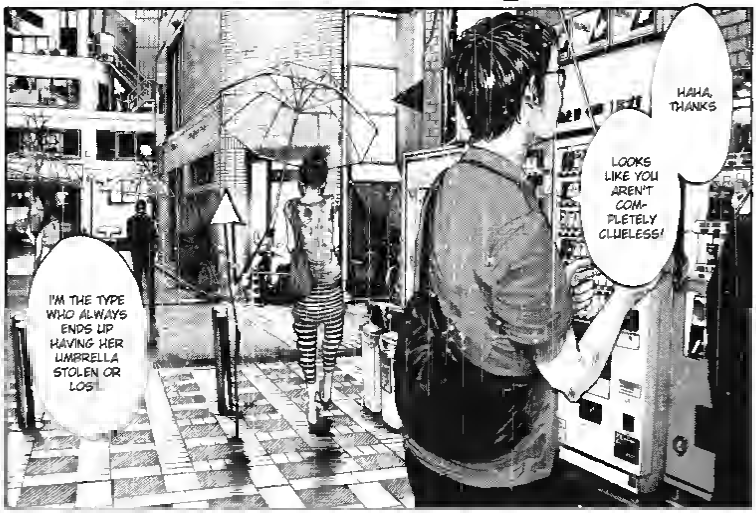
AH!



...PUNPUN WAS UNABLE TO THINK ABOUT ANYTHING ANYMORE.

ONODERA!
OVER HERE!
"UMM... HELLO."
HEY!
I SAID HEY!
DON'T IGNORE ME!
YEAH, I'M TALKING TO YOU!

LOOKS LIKE IT'S RAINING PRETTY HARD AGAIN EH?
I'M ON MY WAY HOME FROM WORK BUT...
WHERE'RE YOU HEADED TO RIGHT NOW, ONODERA?


HAHA, THANKS
LOOKS LIKE YOU AREN'T COMPLETELY CLUELESS!
I'M THE TYPE WHO ALWAYS ENDS UP HAVING HER UMBRELLA STOLEN OR LOST.

30

YOU WERE PRETTY DARN DRUNK THAT NIGHT. YOU KNOW
YOU KEPT BABBLING ON AND ON
THE MANAGER WASN'T MUCH OF A HELP SINCE HE AND THE OTHER CUSTOMERS SOON LEFT FOR ANOTHER ROUND OF DRINKS AT SOME OTHER BAR.

"OH, THAT'S RIGHT," PUNPUN RECALLED.

IF IT TRULY IS FATE THAT BROUGHT ME BACK TO THIS ROOM,
I GUESS I SHOULDN'T BE GIVING YOU ANY ALCOHOL SO
HOW ABOUT SOME OOLONG TEA?
I JUST BOUGHT SOME FROM THE SUPER-MARKET YESTERDAY
HUH?
I KNOW I PUT IT HERE SOME-WHERE...
THEN I OUGHTA STICK MY JOHNNY IN HER CHEEKY LITTLE COOCH!!!

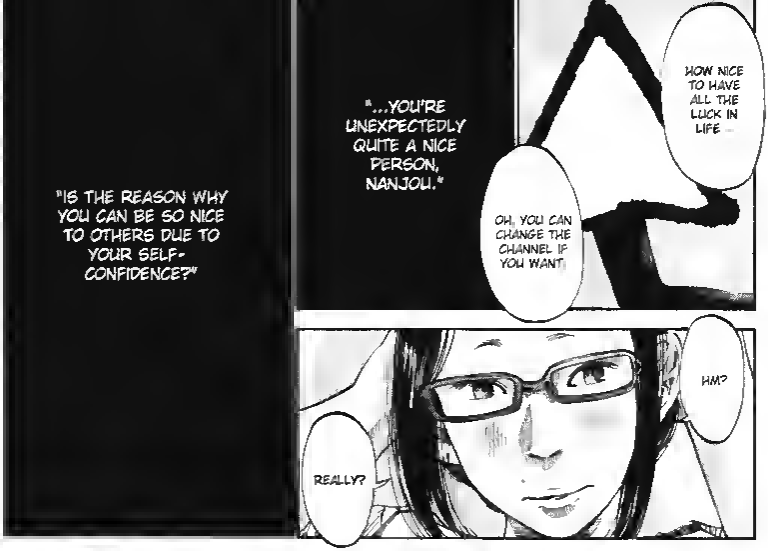
OH.
SORRY ABOUT NOT WAKING YOU UP ON THAT DAY
IF I HAD KNOWN THAT YOU NEEDED TO MEET UP WITH A FRIEND, I WOULD'VE
AH. HERE IT IS.
SO. WHO WAS IT THAT YOU MET UP WITH? WAS IT YOUR GIRLFRIEND?
WERE YOU ABLE TO MEET HER ON TIME?

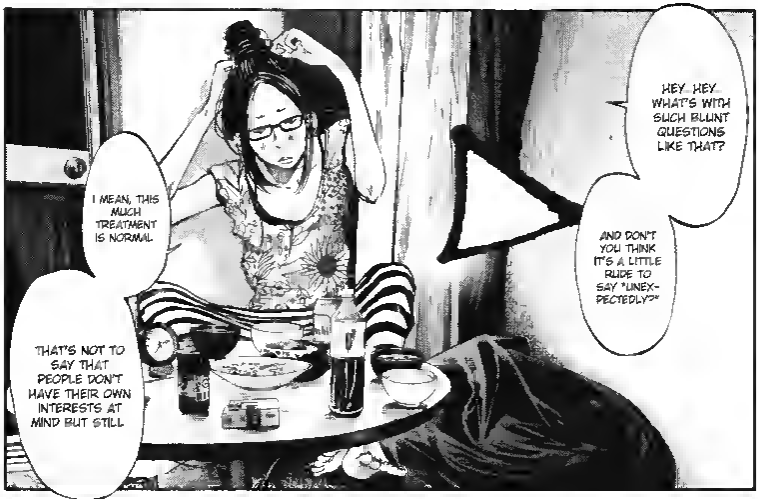
HM?
WHAT IS IT?
DO YOU NEED SOMETHING?

"UMM... DO YOU NEED ANY HELP? HAHA..."
OH NO, IT'S FINE
IT'S EASIER TO COOK THIS WORKING ALONE.
SO JUST SIT DOWN AND TAKE IT EASY. AFTER ALL, YOU'VE GOT A NIGHT SHIFT FOR YOUR PART TIME JOB TODAY, RIGHT?

COME ON,
EAT UP!
I MEAN, YOU DON'T HAVE MUCH MONEY, RIGHT?
IF YOU DON'T MIND ME SAYING, YOU DON'T LOOK TOO WELL. I THINK YOU NEED TO EAT SOME PROPER MEALS

MAN, THESE SHOWS ARE A LITTLE DEPRESSING TO SEE
IT'S HARD NOT TO BE JEALOUS OF ALL THESE MODELS AND ACTRESSES. KNOW WHAT I'M SAYING?
JUST TELL ME IF THE SEASONING'S TOO MILD
AND FEEL FREE TO BE PICKY AND LEAVE OUT ANYTHING YOU DON'T LIKE
I'VE GOT PLENTY OF NATTOU AND KIMCHI SO HELP YOURSELF
OSHAMANBE!
CORRECT!


"IS THE REASON WHY YOU CAN BE SO NICE TO OTHERS DUE TO YOUR SELF-CONFIDENCE?"
"...YOU'RE UNEXPECTEDLY QUITE A NICE PERSON, NANJOU."
HOW NICE TO HAVE ALL THE LUCK IN LIFE—
OH, YOU CAN CHANGE THE CHANNEL IF YOU WANT.
HM?
REALLY?

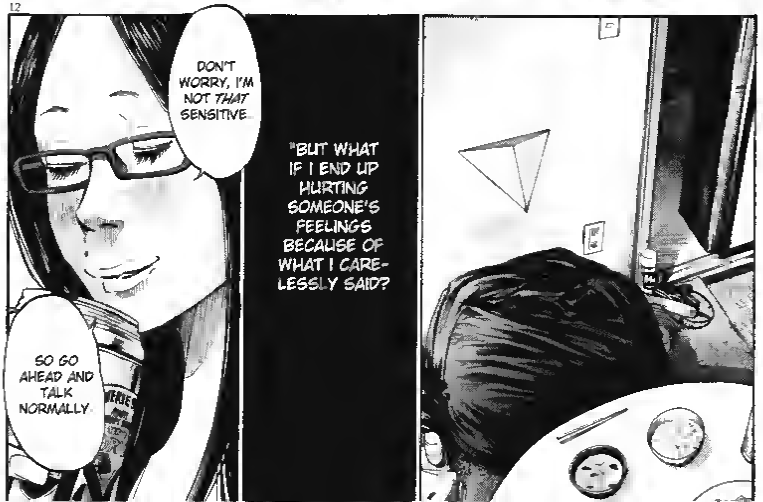

HEY, HEY. WHAT'S WITH SUCH BLUNT QUESTIONS LIKE THAT?
AND DON'T YOU THINK IT'S A LITTLE RUDE TO SAY "UNEXPECTEDLY?"
I MEAN, THIS MUCH TREATMENT IS NORMAL.
THAT'S NOT TO SAY THAT PEOPLE DON'T HAVE THEIR OWN INTERESTS AT MIND BUT STILL

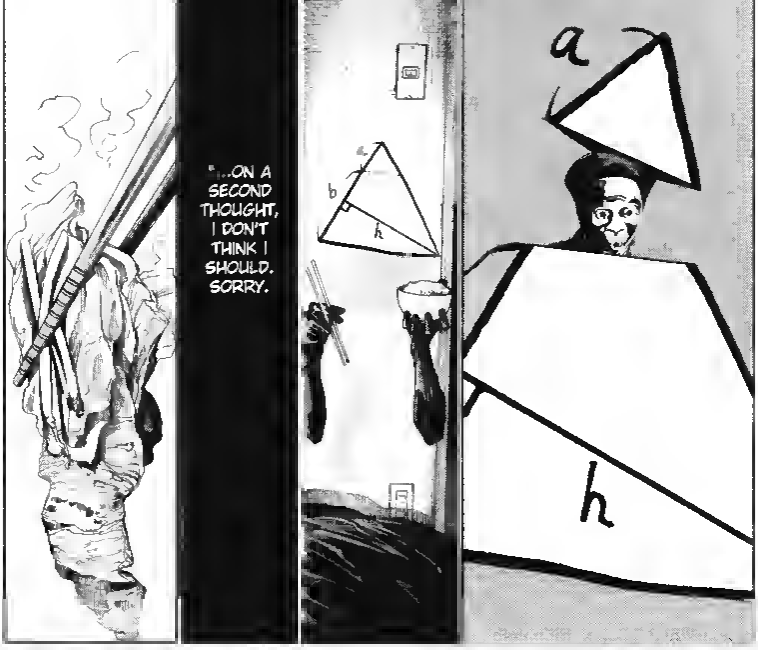
"I'M SORRY, I'M NOT VERY GOOD AT TALKING WITH PEOPLE."

PUNPUN WISHED HE HAD NOT SAID ANYTHING.

OH...
SO YOU DON'T HAVE ANY CONFIDENCE IN YOURSELF?
IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANY JUST MAKE SOME YOURSELF!
OR GO BUY SOME AT A STORE! HAHA

BUT YOU KNOW
I THINK YOU'RE TOO FOCUSED ON EVERY LITTLE THING.
YOU SEEM ALMOST WEARY BECAUSE OF IT
JUST TALK NORMALLY ABOUT WHATEVER THAT'S IN YOUR MIND HONESTLY


DON'T WORRY, I'M NOT THAT SENSITIVE.
"BUT WHAT IF I END UP HURTING SOMEONE'S FEELINGS BECAUSE OF WHAT I CARELESSLY SAID?
SO GO AHEAD AND TALK NORMALLY.


"...ON A SECOND THOUGHT, I DON'T THINK I SHOULD. SORRY.
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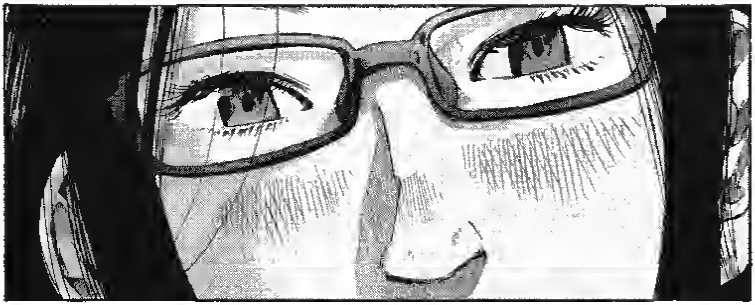
SO?
HOW'S IT TASTE?
HAHA.
THAT'S GOOD TO HEAR.
"...IT'S GOOD."

"I JUST FELT REALLY AWKWARD THAT DAY SO I LIED ABOUT MEETING UP WITH A PERSON."

"WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING,
I PEEPED AT YOUR CROTCH."

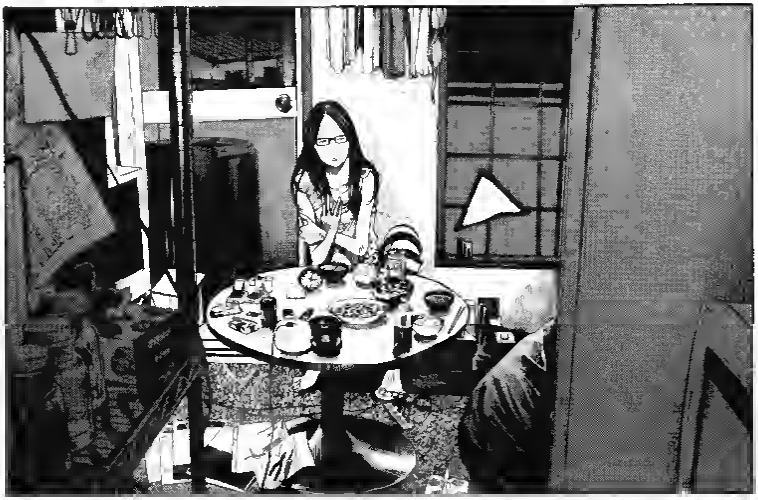
"AFTER SEEING YOUR PUBIC HAIR
STICKING OUT FROM YOUR UNDERWEAR,
I COULD HARDLY CONTROL MYSELF
SO I QUICKLY RAN AWAY."



"AND TO BE PREFECTLY
HONEST..."

"MASTURBATED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 3 YEARS LAST NIGHT."

"ACTUALLY... TO TELL YOU THE WHOLE TRUTH, FOR 10 HOURS STRAIGHT FROM LAST NIGHT UNTIL THIS MORNING, I DID NOTHING *BUT* MASTURBATE.

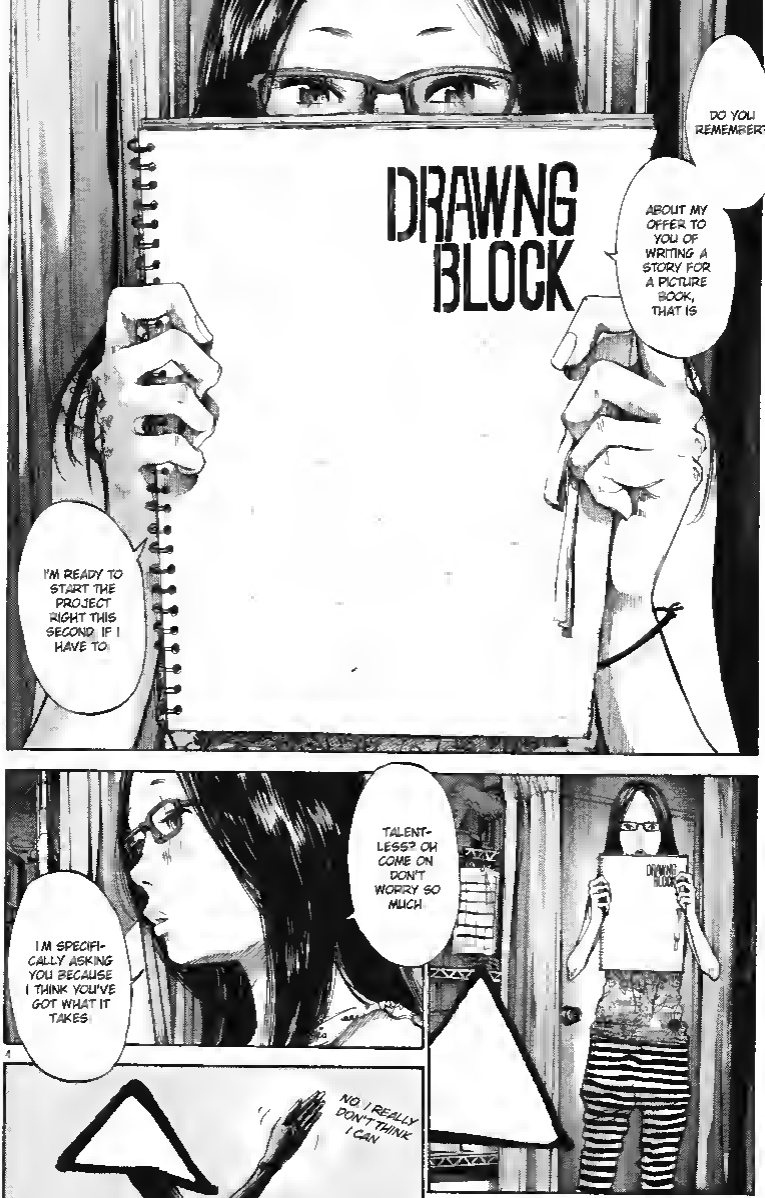


"IT FELT MIND-NUMBINGLY AMAZING!"

"YOU SEE, I FORBID MYSELF FROM JERKING OFF SINCE MY HIGH SCHOOL DAYS SO..."

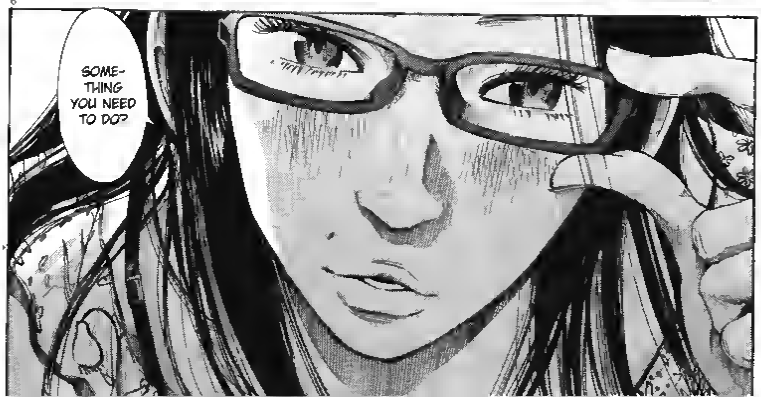
...PFT!
AHAHA HAHA HAHA!
YOU IDIOT!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME THAT MUCH!
OH MAN...
SO YOU COULD SEE MY PANTIES CLEAR AS DAY, HUH..
BUT IF IT REALLY WAS THAT EXCITING FOR YOU
PERHAPS YOU'D LIKE TO SEE IT AGAIN?
WELL EXCUUUSE ME.

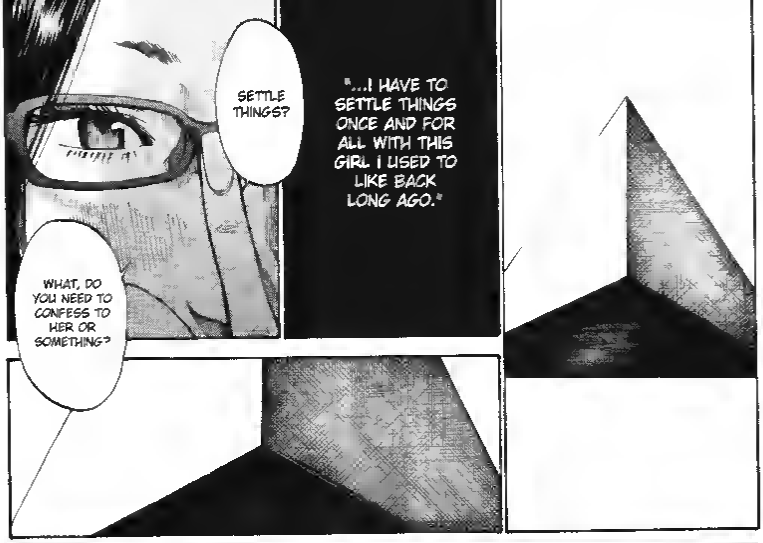
I'M OBVIOUSLY JOKING.
びぃ
BUT I AM QUITE SURPRISED TO HEAR YOU'VE MANAGED TO HOLD OUT FOR 3 YEARS
I WON'T ASK WHAT CAUSED YOU TO DO SUCH A THING THOUGH
BUT IT MUST'VE BEEN QUITE TOUGH FOR YOU, EH?
POOR BOY, BEING SO BACKED UP LIKE THAT... STILL, YOU MUST'VE HAD SOME WET DREAMS TO RELIEVE YOURSELF,
AM I RIGHT?
MAYBE I SHOULD BE THANKING YOU INSTEAD?
IT'S QUITE AN HONOUR THAT SOMEONE WOULD USE ME TO WANK ONE OFF.
HAHAHA
DO YOU WANT ANOTHER BOTTLE OF OOLONG TEA?
ANYHOO...


DRAWNG BLOCK
DO YOU REMEMBER?
ABOUT MY OFFER TO YOU OF WRITING A STORY FOR A PICTURE BOOK, THAT IS
I'M READY TO START THE PROJECT RIGHT THIS SECOND IF I HAVE TO
TALENT-LESS? OH COME ON DON'T WORRY SO MUCH
I'M SPECIFI-CALLY ASKING YOU BECAUSE I THINK YOU'VE GOT WHAT IT TAKES
NO. I REALLY DON'T THINK I CAN

WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU CAN'T!? YOU'RE PRETTY MUCH FREE ALL DAY LONG!
AND I'VE ALREADY FOUND OUT YOUR ADDRESS FROM THE MANAGER,
SO DON'T EVEN THINK YOU CAN RUN AWAY FROM ME!
...ONO-DERA,
I NOW UNDER-STAND WHAT A DEAD-SERIOUS PERSON YOU ARE
BUT YOU CAN'T JUST RUN AWAY FROM EVERYTHING FOREVER
I MAY NOT KNOW WHAT PROBLEMS YOU'VE HAD IN THE PAST,
AND I PERFECTLY UNDERSTAND YOUR FEELINGS OF WANTING TO BE LEFT ALONE SO YOU DON'T HURT ANYONE'S FEELINGS...
BUT THE WORLD'S NOT SUCH A SIMPLE PLACE THAT YOU CAN GET BY LIVING ALL ALONE.
AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, YOU'RE NOT A STRONG ENOUGH PERSON FOR THAT EITHER.
AM I WRONG...?

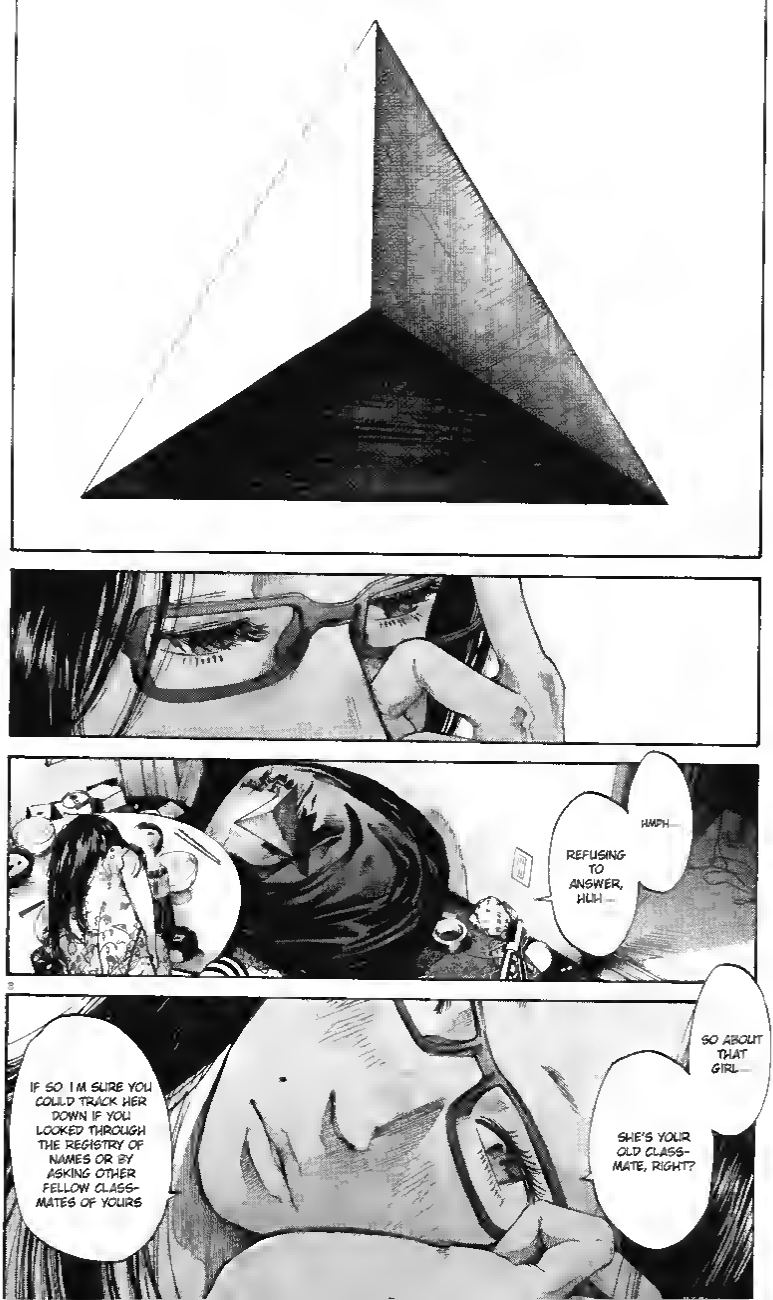
"I... HAVE SOMETHING
I NEED TO DO..."

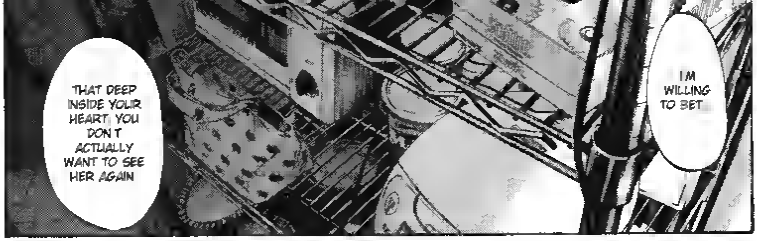



"...I HAVE TO SETTLE THINGS ONCE AND FOR ALL WITH THIS GIRL I USED TO LIKE BACK LONG AGO."
SETTLE THINGS?
WHAT, DO YOU NEED TO CONFESS TO HER OR SOMETHING?

"NOT QUITE... BUT IN ANY CASE, I JUST HAVE THIS FEELING THAT I HAVE TO MEET HER ONE MORE TIME NO MATTER WHAT. THAT'S WHY I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR HER ALL OVER TOWN, LIKE I WAS DOING EARLIER TODAY.

HM.
SO YOU'RE NOT JUST GOING TO GIVE UP HUH—
BUT I DOUBT YOU'D JUST MAGICALLY POP INTO HER BY WALKING THROUGH TOWN,
AND YOU CAN'T KEEP THIS UP FOREVER.
AND IF YOU DON'T FIND HER BY THEN—?
"...I PLAN TO KEEP SEARCHING FOR HER UNTIL 2 YEARS FROM NOW, WHEN THE CONTRACT FOR MY APARTMENT EXPIRES."


HMPH—
REFUSING TO ANSWER, HUH—
SO ABOUT THAT GIRL—
SHE'S YOUR OLD CLASS-MATE, RIGHT?
IF SO I'M SURE YOU COULD TRACK HER DOWN IF YOU LOOKED THROUGH THE REGISTRY OF NAMES OR BY ASKING OTHER FELLOW CLASS-MATES OF YOURS

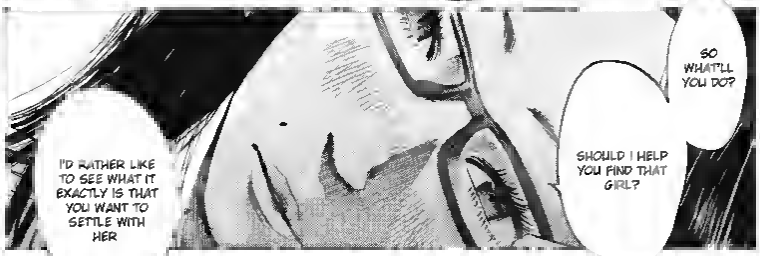

I'M WILLING TO BET
THAT DEEP INSIDE YOUR HEART, YOU DON'T ACTUALLY WANT TO SEE HER AGAIN

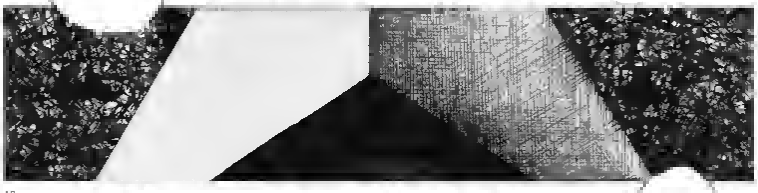
YOU SAY YOU'RE WAITING FOR THIS SO-CALLED DESTINED REUNION WITH HER,
BUT IS THERE REALLY ANY POINT TO THAT?
CONSIDERING THE WAY YOU'RE GOING ABOUT YOUR SEARCH IN A WAY THAT'S MOST LIKELY TO FAIL
I CAN ONLY THINK OF THIS AS JUST SOME FEEBLE EXCUSE OF YOURS

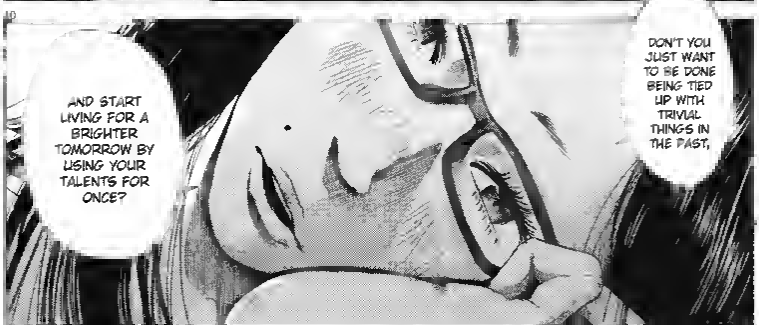
DESPITE WHAT YOU SAY
I'M SURE THAT YOU'LL STILL BE LOOKING FOR HER EVEN 10 YEARS FROM NOW
YOU MAY MAKE IT SEEM LIKE YOU'RE SUFFERING AND THAT YOU WANT TO FIND HER BADLY
BUT WHAT YOU REALLY WANT IS TO CONTINUE YOUR PATHETIC, UNPRODUCTIVE LIFE WITHOUT THINKING OR DOING ANYTHING

I PERSONALLY DON'T CARE EITHER WAY...
THERE'RE A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO WANT TO BE IN DESPAIR JUST SO THEY CAN PITY THEMSELVES.
...BUT I JUST THINK IT'S A WASTE OF TIME THAT'S ALL.
AFTER ALL, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WISHES TO BE LEFT ALONE AND REFUSES TO SHARE YOUR PAIN WITH ANYONE ELSE.

LISTEN UP, ONODERA.
EVEN OUR REUNION AT THE BAR ON THAT NIGHT MIGHT BE FATE.
BUT IT'S ALL UP TO YOU WHETHER YOU WANT TO SEE IT LIKE THAT OR AS JUST A COINCIDENCE.

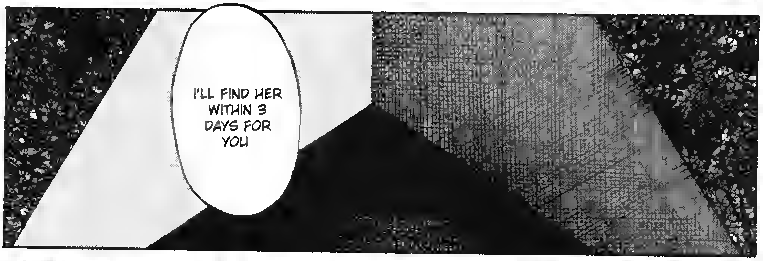

SO WHAT'LL YOU DO?
SHOULD I HELP YOU FIND THAT GIRL?
I'D RATHER LIKE TO SEE WHAT IT EXACTLY IS THAT YOU WANT TO SETTLE WITH HER




DON'T YOU JUST WANT TO BE DONE BEING TIED UP WITH TRIVIAL THINGS IN THE PAST,
AND START LIVING FOR A BRIGHTER TOMORROW BY USING YOUR TALENTS FOR ONCE?

"...PLEASE STOP.

COME ON,
JUST TELL ME HER NAME

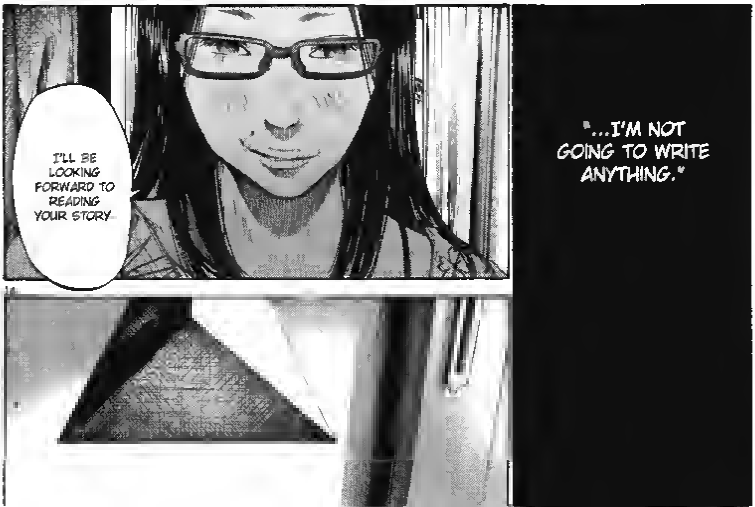

I'LL FIND HER WITHIN 3 DAYS FOR YOU

I SAID STOP!!!

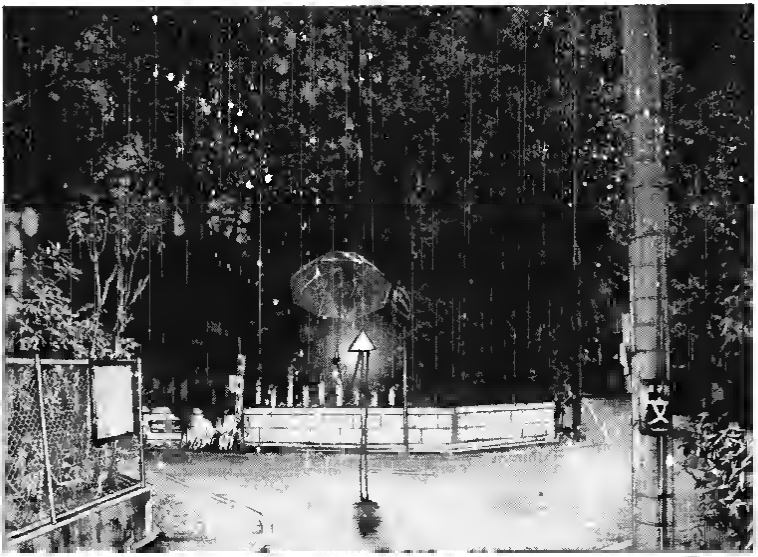
THEN JUST DIE ALREADY!

"I... I THINK I'LL BE GOING NOW.
OH, BEFORE YOU LEAVE...
HERE, IT'S MY NUMBER.
IF YOU WRITE UP EVEN A LITTLE BIT OF MATERIAL PHONE ME UP AND LET ME READ IT

Nanjou Sachi

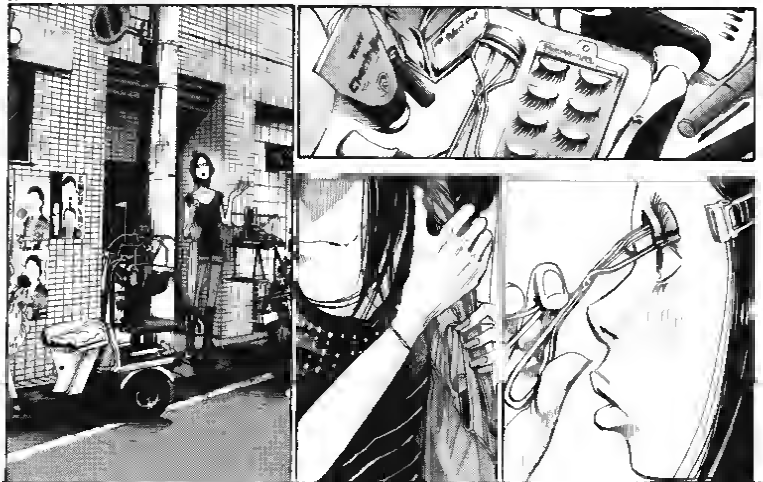

"...I'M NOT GOING TO WRITE ANYTHING."
I'LL BE LOOKING FORWARD TO READING YOUR STORY

"TALK ABOUT A PUSHY WOMAN..."



BEEP BEEP
BEEP BEEP
BEEP
BEEP

BEEP
BEEP



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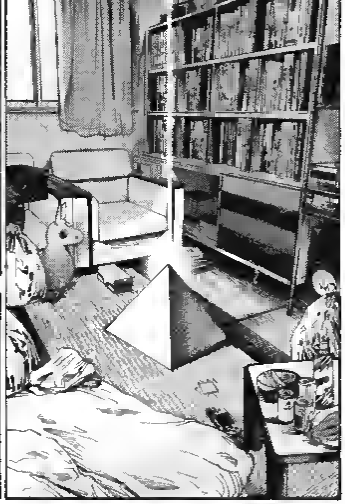
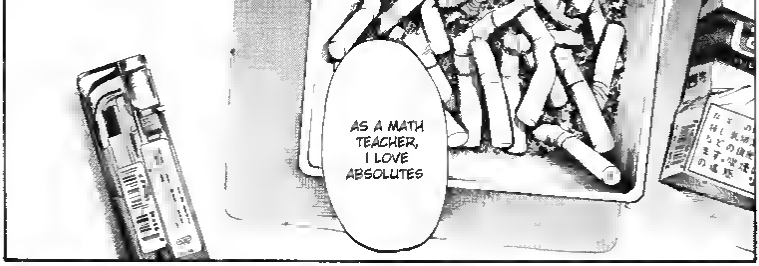
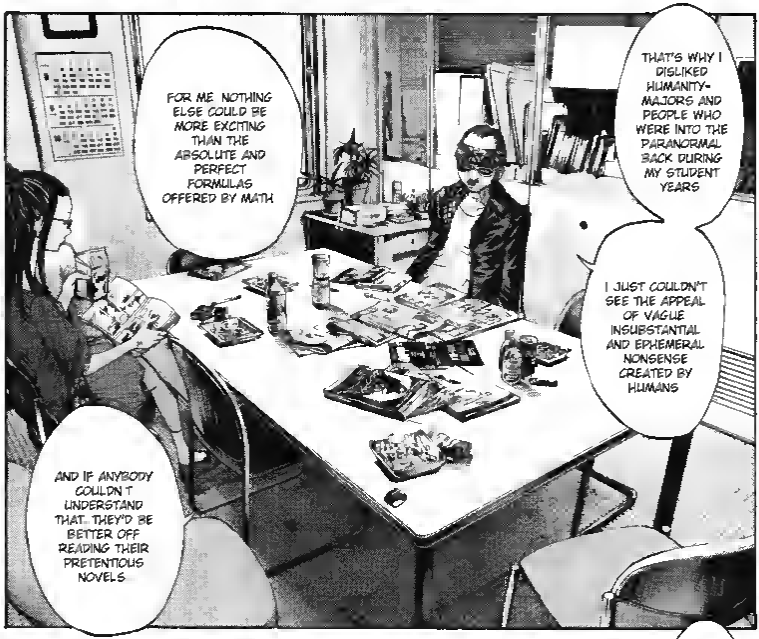
PUNPUN DID NOT SET ONE FOOT OUTSIDE THAT DAY.



HE SOMEHOW FELT UNPLEASANT.

VERY, VERY UNPLEASANT.


AS A MATH TEACHER, I LOVE ABSOLUTES


FOR ME NOTHING ELSE COULD BE MORE EXCITING THAN THE ABSOLUTE AND PERFECT FORMULAS OFFERED BY MATH
THAT'S WHY I DISLIKED HUMANITY-MAJORS AND PEOPLE WHO WERE INTO THE PARANORMAL BACK DURING MY STUDENT YEARS
I JUST COULDN'T SEE THE APPEAL OF VAGUE INSUBSTANTIAL AND EPHEMERAL NONSENSE CREATED BY HUMANS
AND IF ANYBODY COULDN'T UNDERSTAND THAT, THEY'D BE BETTER OFF READING THEIR PRETENTIOUS NOVELS

THE FIRST TIME I MET HIM, HE WAS WALKING NUDE ON CAMPUS WHILE HUMMING A TUNE.
UNTIL I MET HIM
THAT'S WHAT I STUBBORNLY THOUGHT

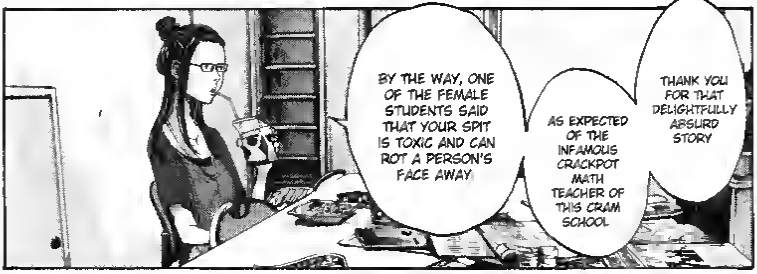
IT WAS QUITE A STRANGE TUNE THAT CAPTIVATED EVEN SOMEONE LIKE ME WHO HAD NO INTEREST IN MUSIC...
SO I WALKED UP TO HIM AND ASKED WHAT HE WAS HUMMING AND WITH THE LOOK OF A LITTLE BOY, HE FACED ME AND SAID,
"THIS IS THE MELODY OF YOUR TOMORROW THAT I HEARD IN MY DREAM."

I THOUGHT HE WAS JUST BEING IDIOTIC AT FIRST...
BUT ON THE NEXT DAY, I CUT MYSELF WHILE SHAVING, ARRIVED LATE FOR MY DATE, AND WAS DUMPED BY MY GIRLFRIEND, EXACTLY LIKE HE PREDICTED!
NOT ONLY THAT, HE EVEN CORRECTLY PREDICTED THE AUM SHINRIKYO CULT'S ATTACKS, 9-11 AND EVEN THE MARIMOKKORI CHARACTER!

BUT HE'S GOT A PURE SOUL.
SO HE NEVER USES HIS POWER FOR HIS OWN SELFISH GAINS NOR DOES HE SHOW IT OFF...
I WAS REMINDED OF THE FAMOUS INDIAN MATHEMATICIAN RAMANUJAN WHO CLAIMED A GODDESS APPEARED BEFORE HIM IN HIS DREAMS TO REVEAL MATHEMATICAL FORMULAS...

AND THEN I REALIZED SOMETHING
I REALIZED THAT MY PURPOSE IN LIFE WAS TO PROVE THE GREATNESS OF A GENIUS LIKE HIM!

I CONSIDER IT MY LIFE'S MISSION TO EXPOSE THE PEOPLE TO THAT MAN'S FORGIVING AND KIND SPIRIT
HE'S THE TYPE TO TRUST AND FORGIVE EVERY LAST HUMAN ON EARTH
THAT MAN IS ALMOST TOO PURE
THAT IS MY DREAM
EVEN A DIVINE MIRACLE IF PROVEN, CAN BECOME A SCIENCE!

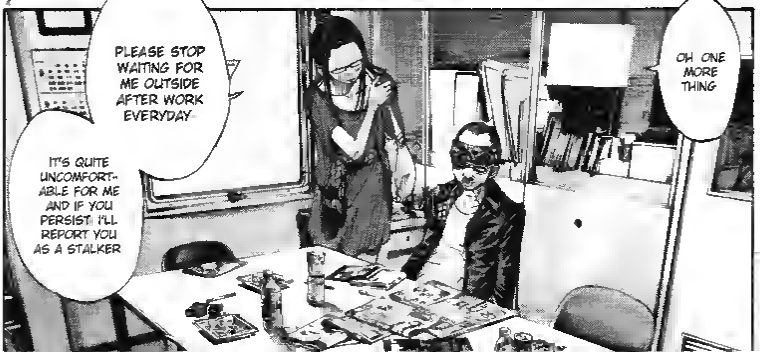

BY THE WAY, ONE OF THE FEMALE STUDENTS SAID THAT YOUR SPIT IS TOXIC AND CAN ROT A PERSON'S FACE AWAY!
AS EXPECTED OF THE INFAMOUS CRACKPOT MATH TEACHER OF THIS CRAM SCHOOL
THANK YOU FOR THAT DELIGHTFULLY ABSURD STORY

BUT UNLIKE THEM, I DON'T THINK I COULD MAKE A LIVING WITH FANCY TALKING
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH HE'S ACTUALLY JUST THE SON OF A MODERATELY WEALTHY FAMILY OF RELIGIOUS FANATICS
WELL,

BUT YOU'RE MORE HUMBLE THAN I THOUGHT YOU'D BE. THAT'S QUITE REASSURING TO KNOW
OF COURSE I PERSONALLY FIND THEM ALL TOO SHADY AND ALMOST LAUGHABLE
WELL, YOU NEVER KNOW IN AN ECONOMIC RECESSION LIKE NOWADAYS RELIGION MIGHT BE QUITE POPULAR AMONG THE PEOPLE

IS THAT A COMPLIMENT?
IF SO, THEN HOW ABOUT GOING OUT WITH ME!? PLEASE, PRETTY PLEASE, WITH A CHERRY ON THE TOP?

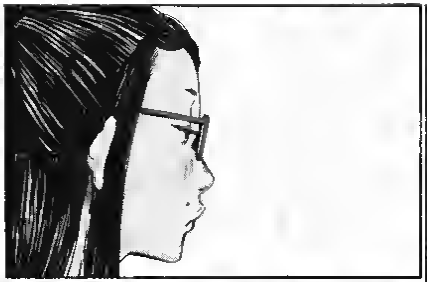
HOW DID THE CONVERSATION SUDDENLY CHANGE TO THIS?
ARE YOU AN IDIOT?


OH ONE MORE THING
PLEASE STOP WAITING FOR ME OUTSIDE AFTER WORK EVERYDAY
IT'S QUITE UNCOMFORTABLE FOR ME AND IF YOU PERSIST I'LL REPORT YOU AS A STALKER

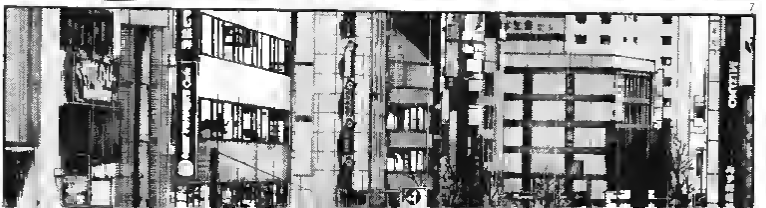
I'LL SEE YOU TOMORROW THEN

... GOOD VIBRATIONS.
大学
学校
個別
説明
指導

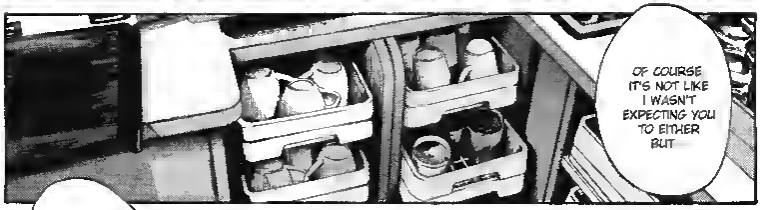
パソコン・デジタル家電
ゼミ
ナール



YO!


Okuzaki
Kawasaki Cafe

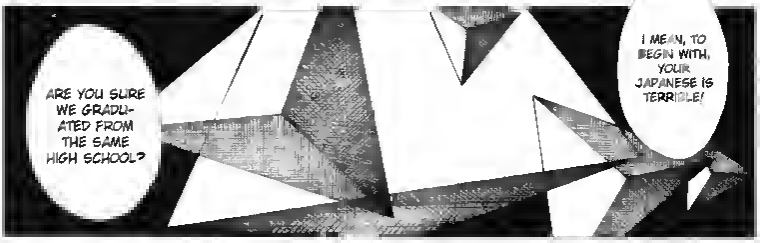
COFFEE & RESTAURANT
24
I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D WRITE UP SOMETHING SO SOON.
TO BE HONEST,


OF COURSE IT'S NOT LIKE I WASN'T EXPECTING YOU TO EITHER BUT

I WAS A LITTLE WORRIED THAT I MIGHT'VE BEEN TOO PUSHY.

HMM...
I SEE...

TERRIBLE!
THIS IS JUST PLAIN TERRIBLE!


I MEAN, TO BEGIN WITH, YOUR JAPANESE IS TERRIBLE!
ARE YOU SURE WE GRADUATED FROM THE SAME HIGH SCHOOL?

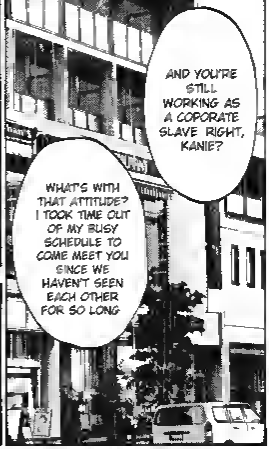
THE PLOT ITSELF IS A LITTLE BETTER, BUT THE REST OF IT IS JUST....
JUST LOOK AT THESE CHARACTERS THEY ACT TOO COOL AND TALK WAY TOO MUCH FOR A PICTURE BOOK
WHAT YOU WROTE IS MORE OF A MANGA.
I COULD'VE SWORN THE STORY YOU WROTE BEFORE WAS SO MUCH BETTER THAN THIS...
OR AM I JUST REMEMBERING IT WITH ROSE-TINTED GLASSES?
NANJOU!

KIN KIRA KIN~ ☆
I'M HERE! ☆
JEEZ, YOU'RE LATE!
HURRY UP AND SIT DOWN, YOU'RE AN EYESORE.

HEY ONODERA, LONG TIME NO SEE!
IT'S ME, KANIEEEEE (THE OLDER KANIE)! ☆

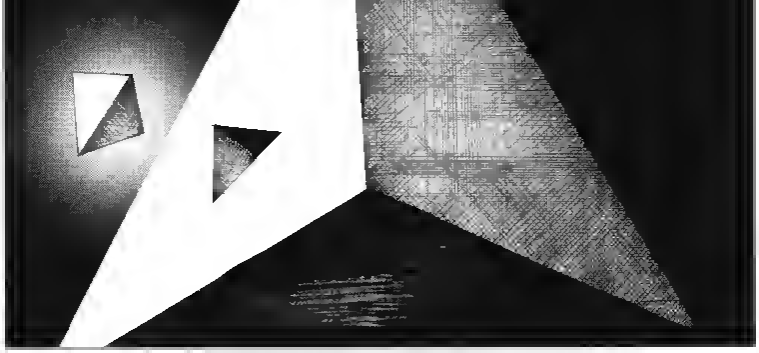
MAY I TAKE YOUR ORDER?
THAT'S RIGHT!
STILL TRYING YOUR LUCK AT MAKING PICTURE BOOKS, NAJOU?
I WAS A RABBIT IN MY PREVIOUS LIFE SO I'LL HAVE A MINI-SALAD.

SO
HOW'S YOUR LITTLE DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH DOING?
YOU SURE YOUR INTUITIONS WEREN'T WRONG...?


AND YOU'RE STILL WORKING AS A COPORATE SLAVE RIGHT, KANIE?
WHAT'S WITH THAT ATTITUDE? I TOOK TIME OUT OF MY BUSY SCHEDULE TO COME MEET YOU SINCE WE HAVEN'T SEEN EACH OTHER FOR SO LONG

ONODERA,
GOING BACK TO WHAT I WAS SAYING, I KNOW YOU CAN WRITE BETTER THAN THIS
IT'S NOTHING TO BE EMBARRASSED ABOUT.
JUST LET YOUR FEELINGS OUT HONESTLY AND WRITE LIKE YOU DID BACK THEN.

SO,
DO YOU WANT TO GIVE IT ANOTHER TRY...?

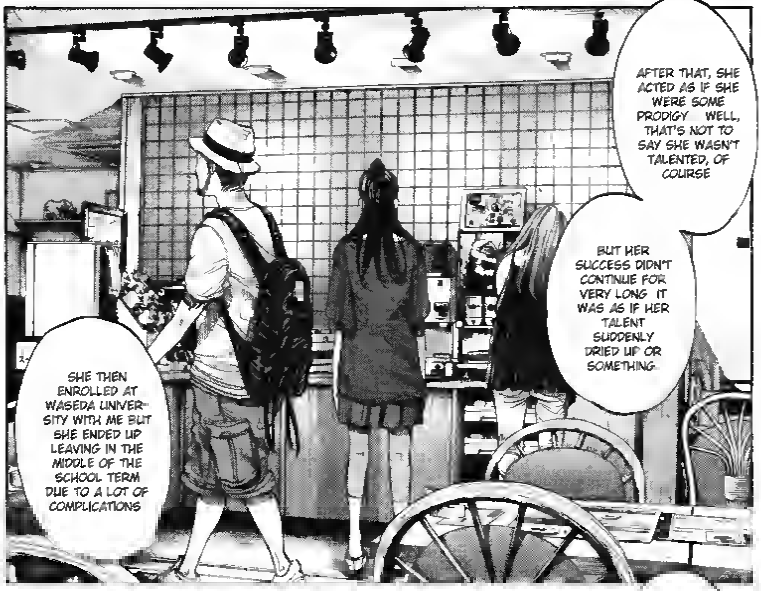


"...I THINK IT'D BE BEST
FOR BOTH OF US IF
I DON'T WRITE ANY MORE.

HOW THE HELL WOULD YOU KNOW IF IT'D BE BEST FOR BOTH OF US? WHAT, ARE YOU SOME ESPER THAT CAN SEE THE FUTURE OR SOMETHING!?
GOD DAMN IT!
THERE YOU GO GIVING UP AGAIN!
NOW, NOW, SETTLE DOWN.

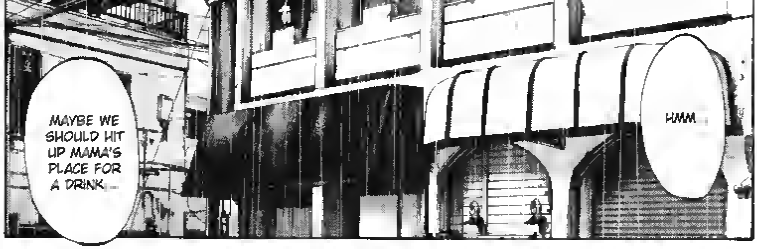
HA,
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE IN QUITE A PICKLE, ONODERA
ONCE NANJOU SETS HER MIND TO SOMETHING, SHE WON'T LISTEN TO ANYTHING ELSE.
SHE'S A REAL DEMON AT GETTING WHAT SHE WANTS
SHE'S ALSO PUSHY EGOTISTICAL AND FOUL-MOUTHED
BUT YOU KNOW SHE'S REALLY GLAD TO HAVE MET YOU AGAIN
IT'S NO LIE THAT SHE'S BEEN LONGING TO SEE YOU AGAIN BELIEVE ME WHEN I SAY THAT MUCH
NANJOU MAY BE THINKING OF HERSELF AS HELPING YOU OUT BUT
I THINK IT'S QUITE THE OPPOSITE I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU TO HELP HER OUT.
STRUGGLING TO SWIM UNDER-WATER,
AND LOOKING ALOOF, EVEN THOUGH SHE'S ACTUALLY JUST PUTTING UP A TOUGH FRONT
AN UGLY DUCKLING THAT BECAME A SWAN, THAT IS.
IN A LOT OF WAYS,
SHE'S A REAL WHITE SWAN

I'VE KNOWN NANJOU EVER SINCE SHE WAS IN GRADE-SCHOOL
BACK THEN SHE WAS THIS GIRL WITH A SKETCHBOOK ALWAYS BY HER SIDE
AND IN MIDDLE SCHOOL SHE WON A LOT OF AWARDS FOR HER DRAWINGS


AFTER THAT, SHE ACTED AS IF SHE WERE SOME PRODIGY WELL, THAT'S NOT TO SAY SHE WASN'T TALENTED, OF COURSE
BUT HER SUCCESS DIDN'T CONTINUE FOR VERY LONG IT WAS AS IF HER TALENT SUDDENLY DRIED UP OR SOMETHING
SHE THEN ENROLLED AT WASEDA UNIVERSITY WITH ME BUT SHE ENDED UP LEAVING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SCHOOL TERM DUE TO A LOT OF COMPLICATIONS

NOWADAYS SHE SAYS SHE CONSIDERS DRAWING PICTURE BOOKS AS MORE OF HER HOBBY
BUT I WONDER IF THAT'S HOW SHE REALLY FEELS...?
THAT'S WHY I THINK IT'D BE GREAT IF YOU COULD EXPEL HER DOUBTS AND SECOND-THOUGHTS

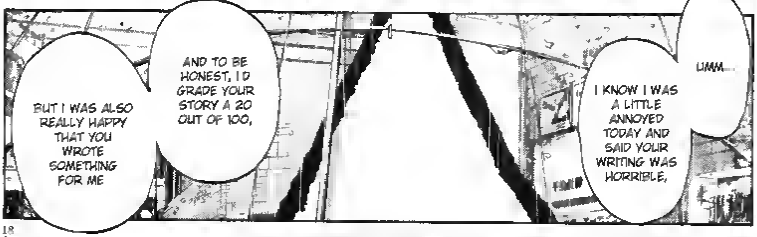
BY THE WAY,
WHAT DO YOU THINK NANJOU'S CHILDHOOD DREAM IS?
IT'S TO BECOME A MANGAKA
SHE WAS PRETTY SERIOUS ABOUT IT BACK IN UNIVERSITY AND SHE EVEN GOT QUITE CLOSE TO GETTING A SERIALIZATION BUT ENDED UP MISSING HER MARK
I THINK SHE FEELS THAT SHE'S BEEN BRANDED WITH FAILURE
SHE JUST CAN'T SEEM TO COME UP WITH A STORY
BUT SHE USED TO TALK ABOUT IT SO PASSIONATELY BACK THEN
ABOUT HOW SHE WANTED TO CRUSH THE WORLD WITH HER MANGA.

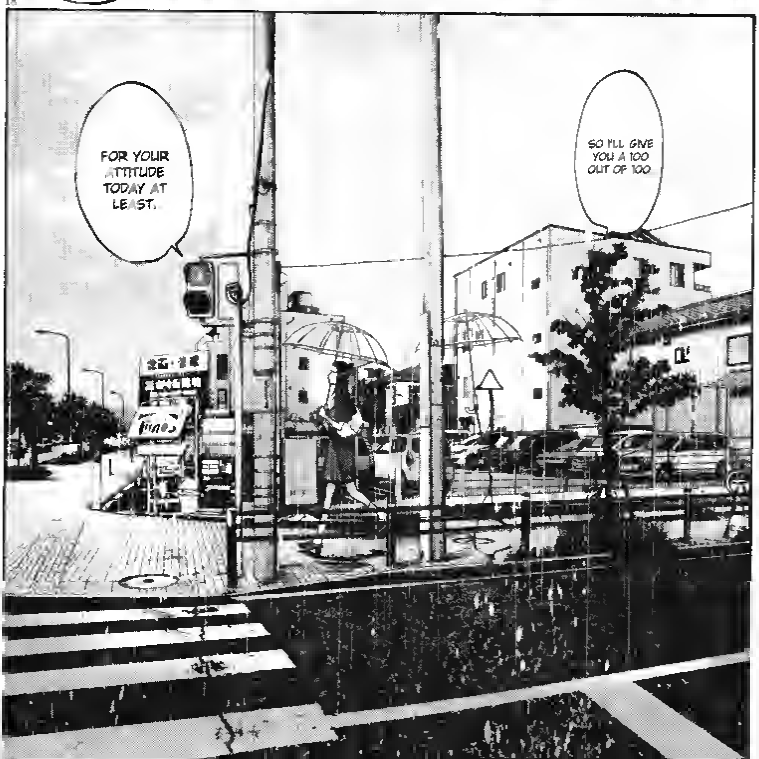


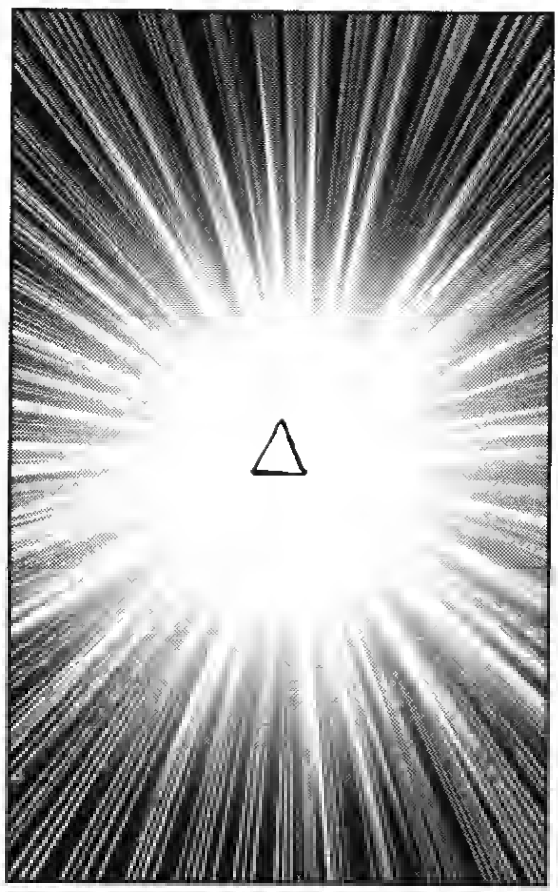
"...I THINK I'LL JUST GO HOME EARLY TODAY SO I CAN GIVE ANOTHER GO AT THE STORY."

"NANJOU... IS IT NO GOOD IF IT'S MANGA?"

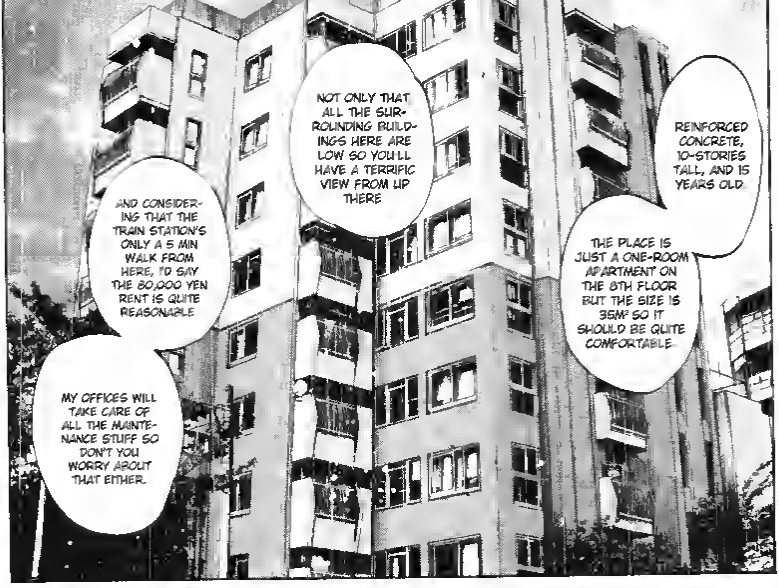
THAT...
THAT MIGHT BE A LITTLE TOO HARD AT THE MOMENT...


UMM...
I KNOW I WAS A LITTLE ANNOYED TODAY AND SAID YOUR WRITING WAS HORRIBLE,
AND TO BE HONEST, I'D GRADE YOUR STORY A 20 OUT OF 100,
BUT I WAS ALSO REALLY HAPPY THAT YOU WROTE SOMETHING FOR ME


SO I'LL GIVE YOU A 100 OUT OF 100
FOR YOUR ATTITUDE TODAY AT LEAST.

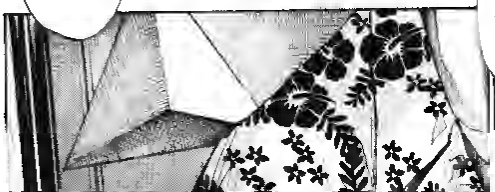


Chapter 83


REINFORCED CONCRETE, 10-STORIES TALL, AND 15 YEARS OLD.
THE PLACE IS JUST A ONE-ROOM APARTMENT ON THE 8TH FLOOR BUT THE SIZE IS 35M² SO IT SHOULD BE QUITE COMFORTABLE.
NOT ONLY THAT ALL THE SURROUNDING BUILDINGS HERE ARE LOW SO YOU'LL HAVE A TERRIFIC VIEW FROM UP THERE
AND CONSIDERING THAT THE TRAIN STATION'S ONLY A 5 MIN WALK FROM HERE, I'D SAY THE 80,000 YEN RENT IS QUITE REASONABLE
MY OFFICES WILL TAKE CARE OF ALL THE MAINTENANCE STUFF SO DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT THAT EITHER.

WELL AREN'T YOU PRETTY CARELESS ABOUT YOUR JOB
YUP. JUST PRETEND YOU DIDN'T SEE THAT JUST NOW

I SHOULD'VE LEFT THE KEY UP HERE—



OOH, THIS PLACE IS PRETTY NICE.
THE ENTRANCE LOOKS PRETTY WORN OUT BUT INTERIOR LOOKS NICE
THAT'S RIGHT!

HM?

2

WHOA! THE BATHROOM'S ALL NEW!
AH
W-
WHOA-
OWW!
THE BATHTUB OF MY CURRENT PLACE IS SO OLD IT'S A NIGHTMARE!

SORRY ABOUT THIS.
IT'S JUST THAT I HAVE THIS OLD SCAR ON MY FOREHEAD THAT CAN REOPEN PRETTY EASILY
WELL I'M JUST GLAD YOU'RE ALRIGHT

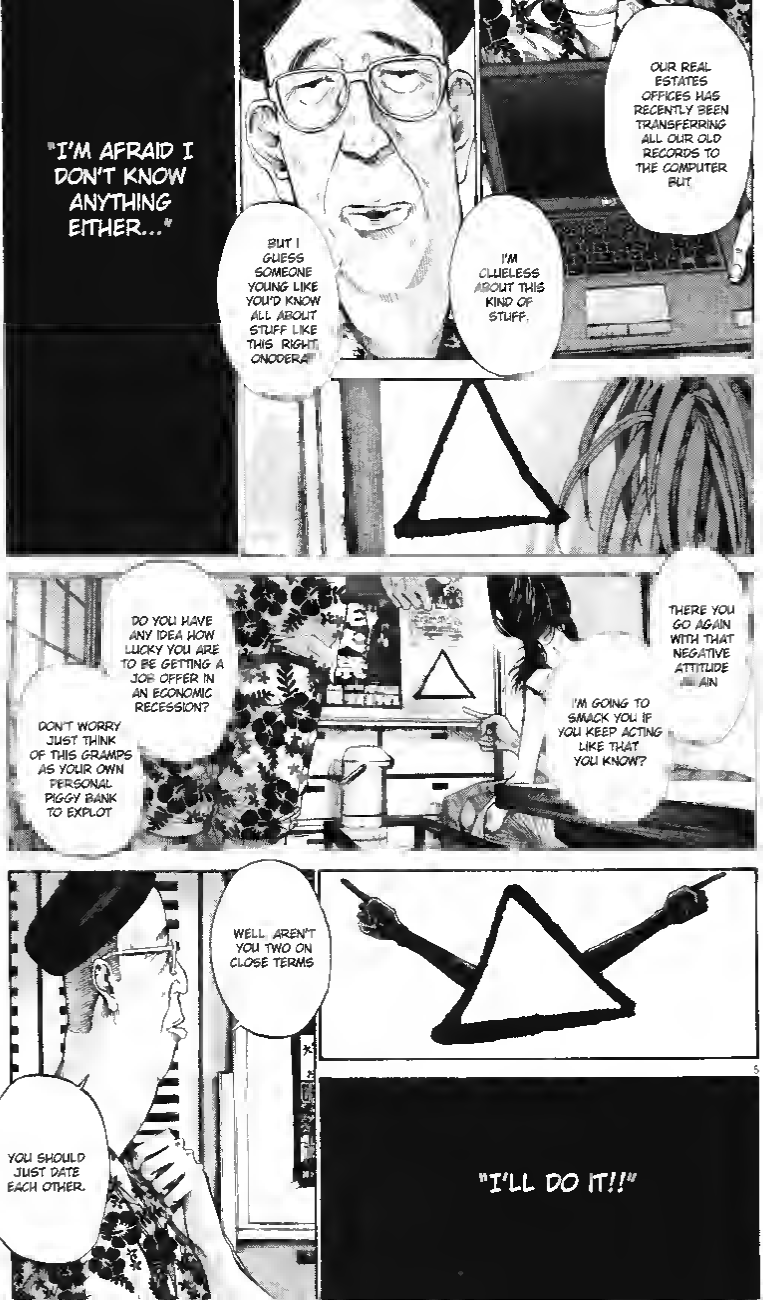
DID IT STOP BLEEDING?
YEAH, FOR NOW, I GUESS.

第62回
大花火大会
SO HAVE YOU DECIDED?
MN...
IF YOU DON'T HURRY UP, SOMEONE ELSE MIGHT END UP TAKING THE PLACE, YOU KNOW!
TO THINK THAT I'D WANT TO MOVE BECAUSE SOME STALKER FROM WORK KNOWS WHERE I LIVE...
I MEAN, IT IS CREEPY AND ALL BUT TO MOVE JUST BECAUSE OF THAT PISSES ME OFF...!

HM?
ARE YOU CHANGING JOBS ALREADY?
BUT...
THAT ROOM LOOKS PRETTY NICE TO WORK IN...

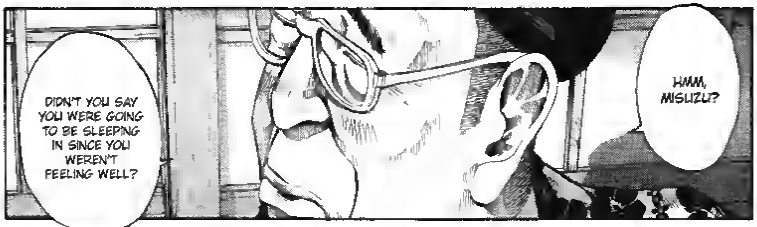
OH NO NO
IT'S NOTHING

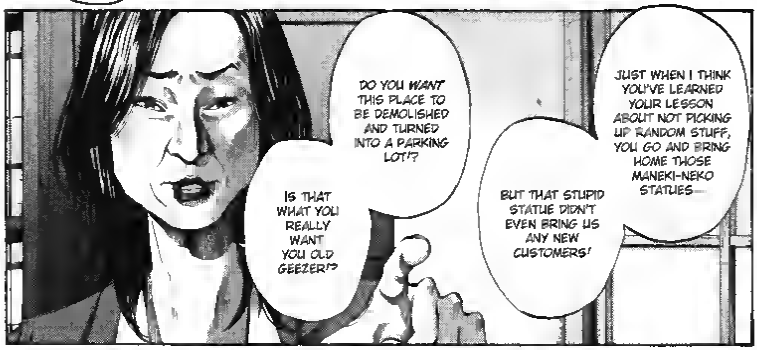
OH, SPEAKING OF JOBS,
I KNOW I SUGGESTED IT TO YOU BEFORE, ONODERA,
BUT WOULD YOU LIKE TO WORK PART TIME HERE?


"I'M AFRAID I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING EITHER..."
BUT I GUESS SOMEONE YOUNG LIKE YOU'D KNOW ALL ABOUT STUFF LIKE THIS RIGHT ONODERA?
I'M CLUELESS ABOUT THIS KIND OF STUFF.
OUR REAL ESTATES OFFICES HAS RECENTLY BEEN TRANSFERRING ALL OUR OLD RECORDS TO THE COMPUTER BUT
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW LUCKY YOU ARE TO BE GETTING A JOB OFFER IN AN ECONOMIC RECESSION?
DON'T WORRY JUST THINK OF THIS GRAMPS AS YOUR OWN PERSONAL PIGGY BANK TO EXPLOT
I'M GOING TO SMACK YOU IF YOU KEEP ACTING LIKE THAT YOU KNOW?
THERE YOU GO AGAIN WITH THAT NEGATIVE ATTITUDE AIN
WELL AREN'T YOU TWO ON CLOSE TERMS
YOU SHOULD JUST DATE EACH OTHER.
"I'LL DO IT!!"

NO WAY.
OH.
AH!

HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU!? WE DON'T HAVE THE MONEY TO SPARE TO BE GIVING OUT PART-TIME JOBS!
GOD, YOU'RE TOO TRUSTING OF PEOPLE!
THIS IS JUST LIKE THE TIME YOU WENT FOR A WALK AND RETURNED HOME WITH SOME STRAY CAT THAT ENDED UP SHITTING ALL OVER THE HOUSE!
DO YOU REALLY WANT TO BE HIT WITH A WOODEN MALLET AGAIN!?


HMM, MISUZU?
DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU WERE GOING TO BE SLEEPING IN SINCE YOU WEREN'T FEELING WELL?


JUST WHEN I THINK YOU'VE LEARNED YOUR LESSON ABOUT NOT PICKING UP RANDOM STUFF, YOU GO AND BRING HOME THOSE MANEKI-NEKO STATUES—
BUT THAT STUPID STATUE DIDN'T EVEN BRING US ANY NEW CUSTOMERS!
DO YOU *WANT* THIS PLACE TO BE DEMOLISHED AND TURNED INTO A PARKING LOT!?
IS THAT WHAT YOU REALLY WANT YOU OLD GEEZER!?

NOW, NOW
I THINK IT'D BE BEST FOR YOU TO GO BACK AND LIE DOWN

AND AS FOR YOU...
DON'T JUST SIT ON YOUR BUM, WAITING FOR SOMEONE TO JUST HAND YOU A JOB!
IT'S COMMON SENSE FOR A PERSON TO GET OUT THERE IN THE WORLD AND WORK HIS ASS OFF TO MAKE A LIVING NO MATTER WHAT PROBLEMS HE
YET YOU PRETEND THE REST OF THE WORLD HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU AND JUST LAZE AROUND WITH A FACE THAT MIGHT AS WELL BELONG TO A CORPSE...!

GOD, YOU YOUNG-STERS ARE SO CON-CEITED...
THE ONLY THING YOU CAN EVER DO IS WHINE, WHINE, WHINE.

ALWAYS WHINING ABOUT HOW THE JOB MARKET IS BAD,
OR YOUR WORK BENEFITS AREN'T GOOD ENOUGH, OR HOW YOU DON'T WANT TO BE A SLAVE OF SOCIETY OR WHATEVER...
BACK IN THE OLDEN DAYS,
PEOPLE WORKED TO THE BONE IN FAR HARSHER CONDITIONS THAN YOU'D EVER IMAGINE!

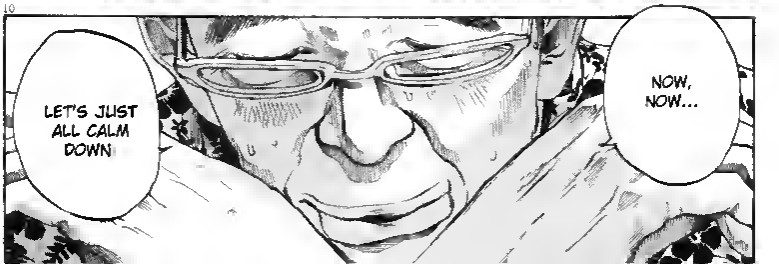
NO MATTER THE TIMES WE LIVE IN, A WORTHLESS PIECE OF TRASH IS A WORTHLESS PIECE OF TRASH!
SO DON'T GET COCKY, PUNK!
GOT IT, YOU LAZY PASSIVE BUM!?
YOU DON'T EVEN CONTRIBUTE A SINGLE THING TO SOCIETY!

DON'T YOU THINK YOU'RE BEING A BIT TOO HARSH?
WAIT, WAIT, WAIT,
JUST HANG ON A MINUTE

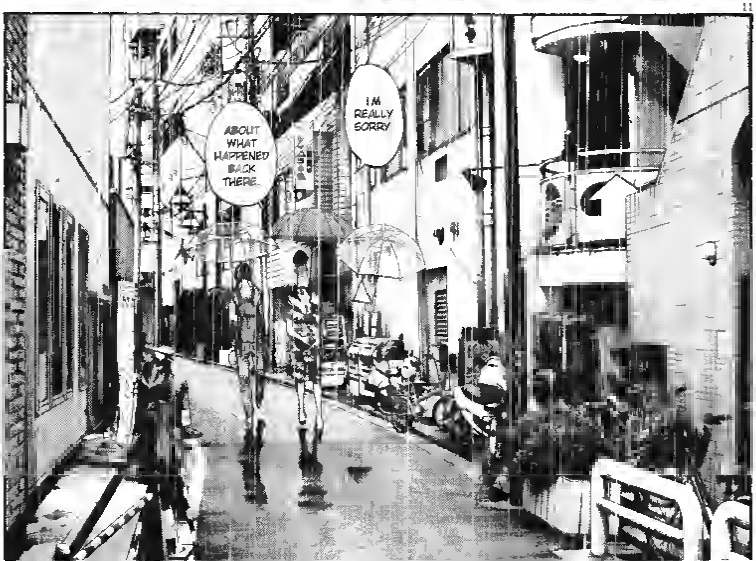
KIDS LIKE HIM WILL NEVER UNDERSTAND UNLESS YOU SHOUT IT DIRECTLY TO THEIR FACES—!
HMPH,
IT'LL BE EASIER FOR AN IDIOT LIKE HIM TO UNDERSTAND THIS WAY
THAT MAY BE TRUE,
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU NEED TO SAY IT SO RUDELY

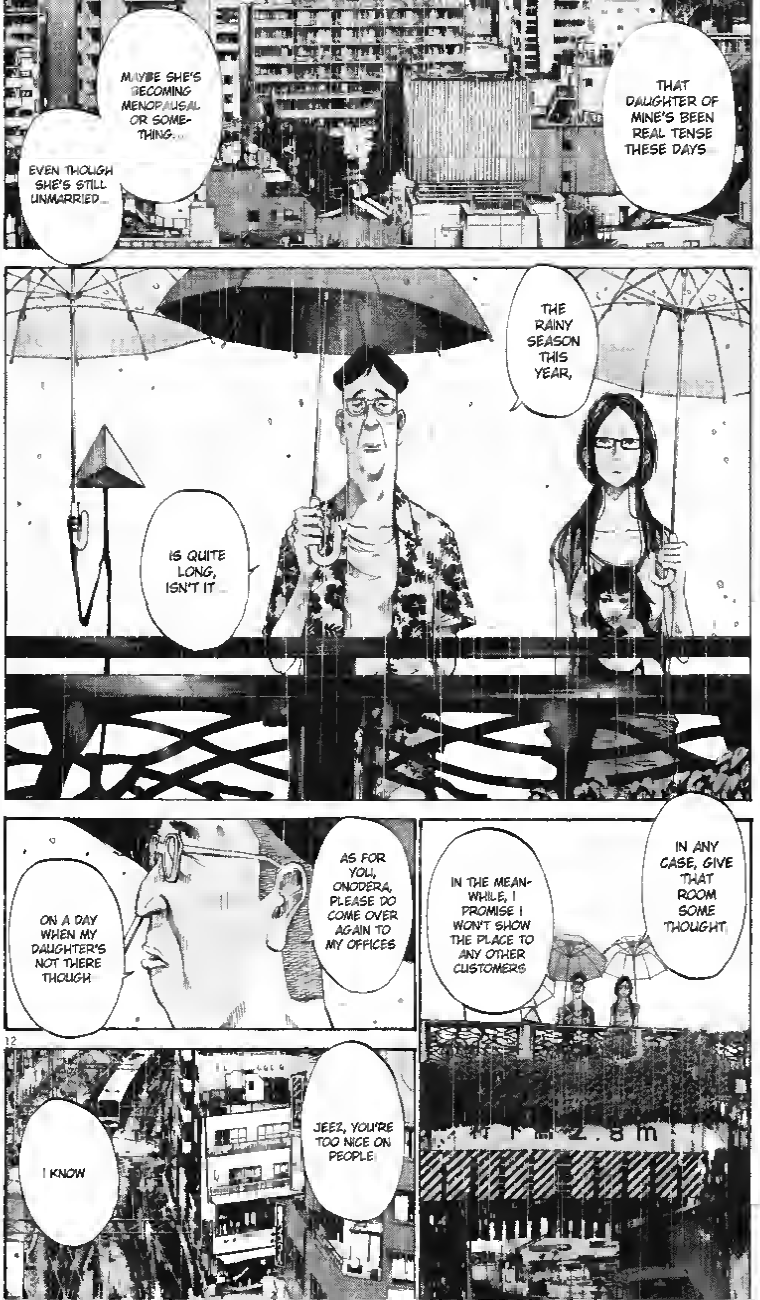
IT'S TRUE THAT ONODERA IS A LITTLE LACKING.
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU CAN JUST LUMP HIM TOGETHER WITH ALL THE SLACKERS OF TODAY'S GENERATION WHEN YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW THE FIRST THING ABOUT HIS CIRCUMSTANCES!
HIS CIRCUM-STANCES!!?
OH, SO A KID WHO HAS NO HEALTH PROBLEMS HAS CIRCUM-STANCES THAT JUSTIFY HIM TO BE A LAZY DUMBASS!?

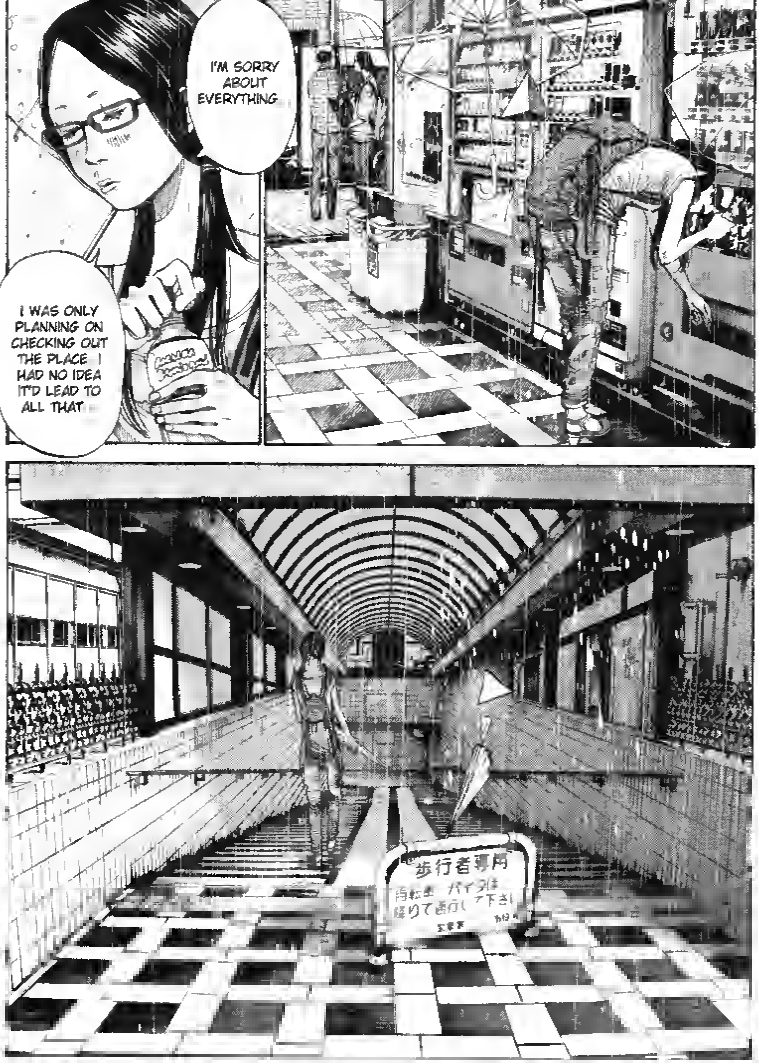
SO THEN YOU THINK HE SHOULD JUST WORK HIMSELF TO DEATH!?
HOLD
WHY THE [illegible] SHOULD I AKE RESPONSI-BILITY!?
ARE YOU GOING TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR WHEN HE DESTROYS HIS HEALTH AND SINKS INTO DEPRESSION!?
ON-
DON'T MY TAXES ALREADY SUPPORT HIS LAZY ASS ENOUGH!?


NOW, NOW...
LET'S JUST ALL CALM DOWN

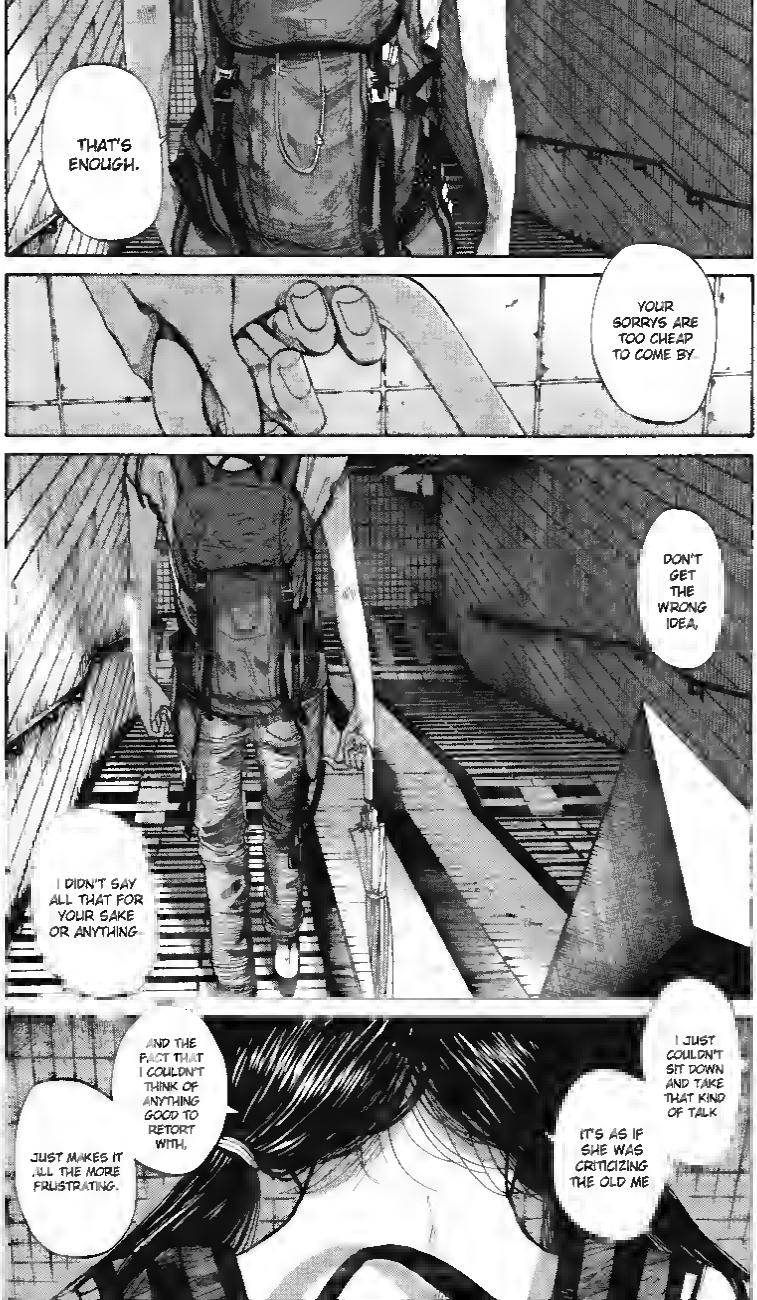
THAT'S IT, I'M LEAVING! I'VE GOT BETTER THINGS TO DO THAN ARGUE WITH YOU!
OH YES, I'M SURE YOU'RE REAAAAL BUSY!
HAH!
I WIN THIS ROUND!

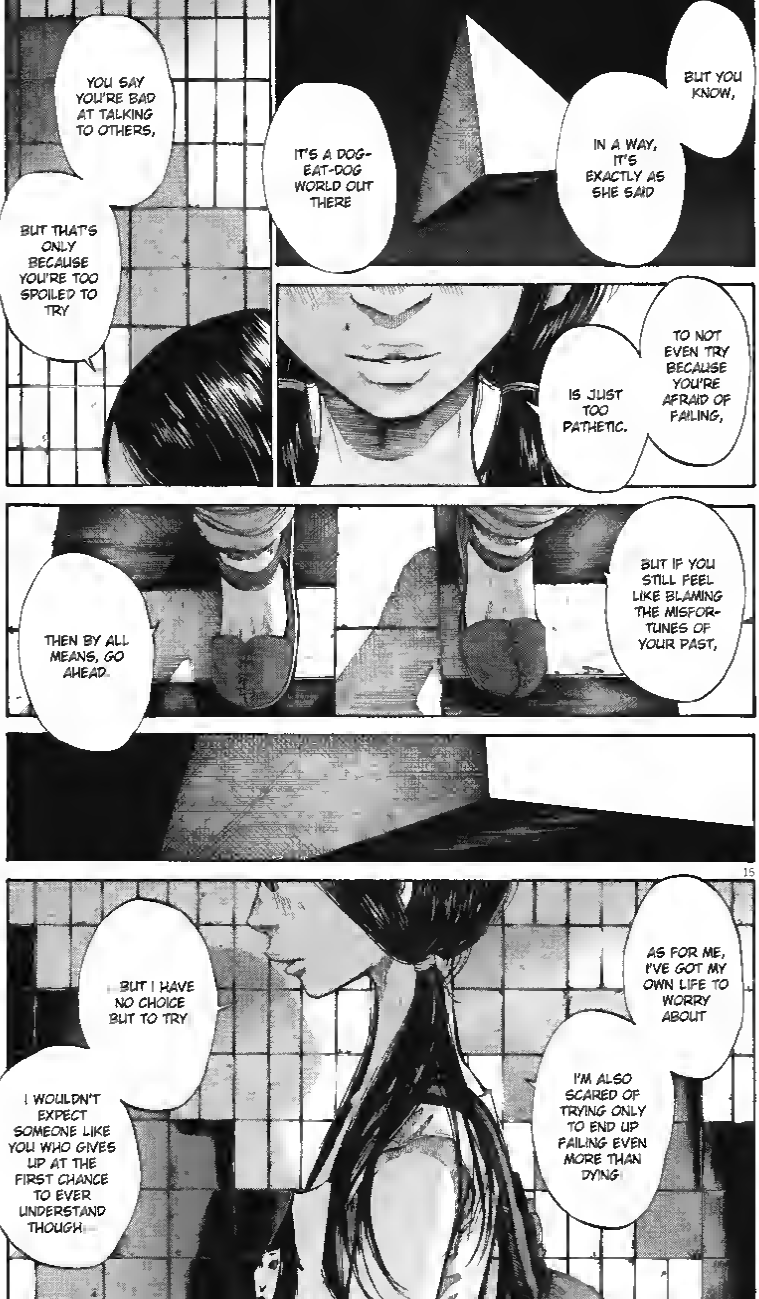

I'M REALLY SORRY
ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED BACK THERE.

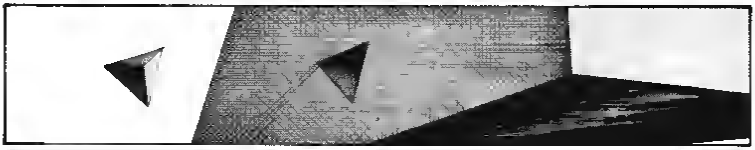

THAT DAUGHTER OF MINE'S BEEN REAL TENSE THESE DAYS...
MAYBE SHE'S BECOMING MENOPAUSAL OR SOMETHING...
EVEN THOUGH SHE'S STILL UNMARRIED...
THE RAINY SEASON THIS YEAR,
IS QUITE LONG, ISN'T IT...
AS FOR YOU, ONODERA, PLEASE DO COME OVER AGAIN TO MY OFFICES
ON A DAY WHEN MY DAUGHTER'S NOT THERE THOUGH
IN ANY CASE, GIVE THAT ROOM SOME THOUGHT
IN THE MEANWHILE, I PROMISE I WON'T SHOW THE PLACE TO ANY OTHER CUSTOMERS
JEEZ, YOU'RE TOO NICE ON PEOPLE
I KNOW
12



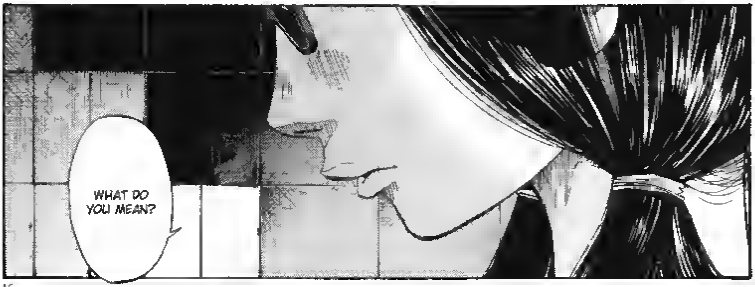
"NO... I SHOULD BE THE ONE APOLOGIZING FOR NOT SAYING ANYTHING BACK."


THAT'S ENOUGH.
YOUR SORRYS ARE TOO CHEAP TO COME BY.
DON'T GET THE WRONG IDEA.
I DIDN'T SAY ALL THAT FOR YOUR SAKE OR ANYTHING.
I JUST COULDN'T SIT DOWN AND TAKE THAT KIND OF TALK.
IT'S AS IF SHE WAS CRITICIZING THE OLD ME
AND THE FACT THAT I COULDN'T THINK OF ANYTHING GOOD TO RETORT WITH,
JUST MAKES IT ALL THE MORE FRUSTRATING.


YOU SAY YOU'RE BAD AT TALKING TO OTHERS,
BUT THAT'S ONLY BECAUSE YOU'RE TOO SPOILED TO TRY
IT'S A DOG-EAT-DOG WORLD OUT THERE
BUT YOU KNOW,
IN A WAY, IT'S EXACTLY AS SHE SAID
TO NOT EVEN TRY BECAUSE YOU'RE AFRAID OF FAILING,
IS JUST TOO PATHETIC.
BUT IF YOU STILL FEEL LIKE BLAMING THE MISFORTUNES OF YOUR PAST,
THEN BY ALL MEANS, GO AHEAD.
AS FOR ME, I'VE GOT MY OWN LIFE TO WORRY ABOUT
I'M ALSO SCARED OF TRYING ONLY TO END UP FAILING EVEN MORE THAN DYING
BUT I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO TRY
I WOULDN'T EXPECT SOMEONE LIKE YOU WHO GIVES UP AT THE FIRST CHANCE TO EVER UNDERSTAND THOUGH.

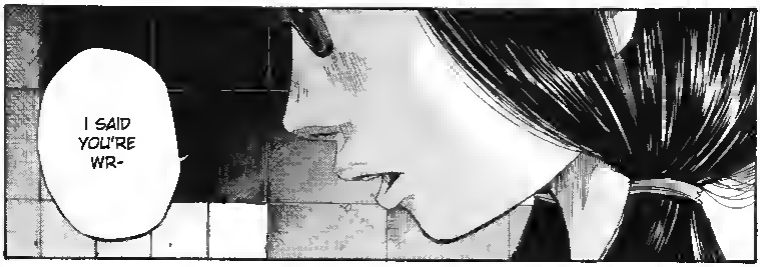


"ISN'T THAT A LITTLE CONCEITED OF YOU...?"



"YOU'RE PRETTY, SMART, AND TALENTED AT DRAWING. IT'S ONLY OBVIOUS THAT A PERSON AS LUCKY AS YOU WOULD BE OVERFLOWING WITH SELF-CONFIDENCE, BUT HOW CAN YOU EXPECT THE SAME AMOUNT OF SELF-CONFIDENCE FROM ME...? THAT'S JUST TOO CRUEL."

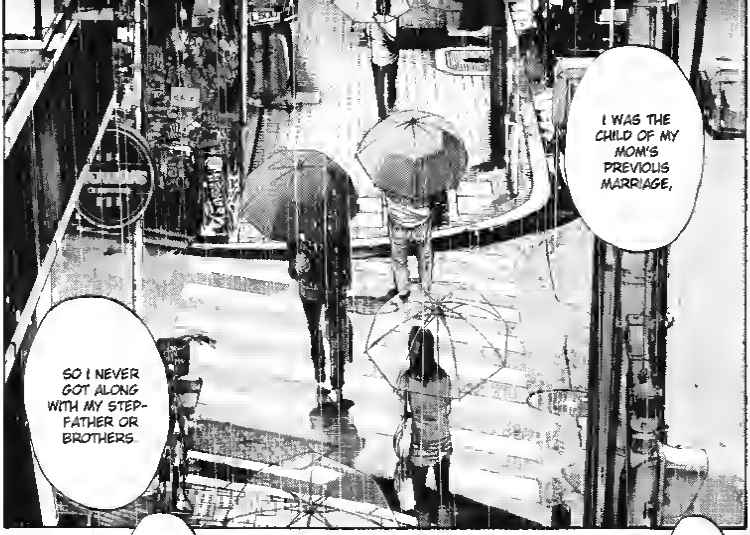
"WITHOUT CONSIDERING THE FEELINGS OF OTHERS, ALL YOU DO IS LOOK DOWN ON PEOPLE."



"SO PLEASE JUST STOP CRITICIZING ME ANOYMRE..."

I...
I REALLY DIDN'T WANT TO TELL YOU THIS BUT...
THE TRUTH IS...
THIS FACE OF MINE...
I'VE HAD,
PLASTIC SURGERY ON IT.

Chapter 84


I WAS THE CHILD OF MY MOM'S PREVIOUS MARRIAGE.
SO I NEVER GOT ALONG WITH MY STEP-FATHER OR BROTHERS.

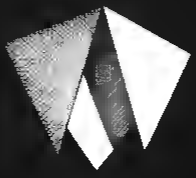
FATASS
RETARD,
UGLY,
I'VE HEARD IT ALL WHEN I WAS YOUNG

I THREW UP AS MUCH FOOD AS I COULD,
AND STUDIED UNTIL MY HEAD PHYSICALLY HURT.
AFTER ENTERING UNIVERSITY, I WORKED MY ASS OFF AT NIGHT CLUBS AND HOSTESS BARS.
ALL SO I COULD CHANGE MY EYES,
MY NOSE
MY FACIAL STRUC-TURE...
I'VE CHANGED EVERY PART OF MYSELF THAT I DISLIKED

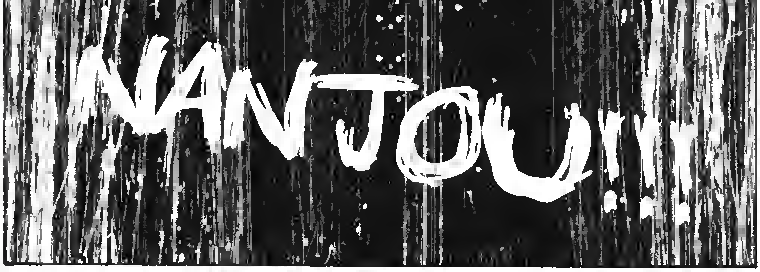
MONEY TO EARN, LOVE TO FIND,
AND SUCCESS TO ACHIEVE.
AND I HAVE NO NEED FOR A PAST.
I'VE GOT DREAMS TO FULFILL.
THEY MAY BE FOOLISHLY SIMPLISTIC DESIRES FOR SOME BUT TO ME, WORKING TOWARDS THEM BIT BY BIT IS HOW I BUILD MY CONFIDENCE.
MY FACE,
BODY,
I CHOSE EVERY ASPECT OF MYSELF WITH MY OWN WILL
I DON'T WANT TO BE ORDERED AROUND BY ANYONE ANYMORE,
LIFESTYLE,

I HAVE DREAMS,
AND I'M NOT AFRAID TO USE ANY MEANS NECCESSARY TO ACHIEVE THEM.
I BELIEVE THIS ASPECT OF MYSELF IS PERFECTLY JUSTIFIED AND CORRECT.
WHEN I LOOK AT YOUR PATHETIC SELF, WHO'S TOO SCARED TO EVEN DO ANYTHING,
IT'S AS IF I'M LOOKING AT MY CHILDHOOD SELF THAT I'VE DECIDED TO ABANDON LONG AGO,
IT REALLY TICKS ME OFF
AND SOMEHOW, IT MAKES ME FEEL GUILTY

I ONLY UNDERSTAND TOO WELL,
JUST HOW EMPTY YOUR WORRIES ARE.
WHICH IS WHY I CAN'T FORGIVE YOU,
NOR CAN I LEAVE YOU ALONE EITHER.
IN A LOT OF WAYS, SHE'S A REAL WHITE SWAN.
AN UGLY DUCKLING THAT BECAME A SWAN, THAT IS.
DON'T YOU HAVE IT EASY...
ALL YOU DO IS LICK YOUR OWN WOUNDS
NORMALLY, NOBODY SHOULD EVEN THINK ABOUT HELPING SOMEONE LIKE YOU



SORRY...
IT MUST BE BECAUSE OF WHAT THAT HAG SAID REALLY GOT TO ME
AGH...
DAMMIT
THERE'S NOTHING I HATE MORE THAN CRYING IN FRONT OF SOMEONE...
DO CALL ME BACK, OKAY?

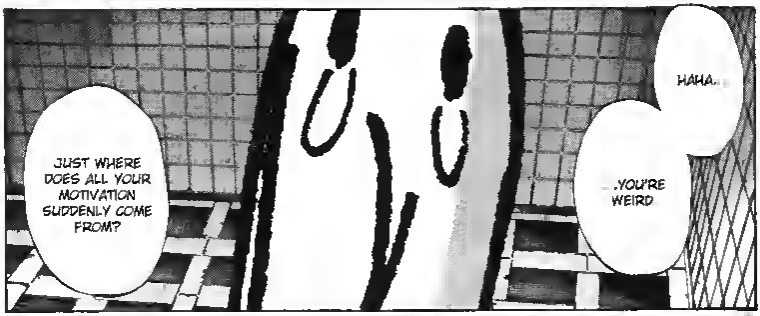


10

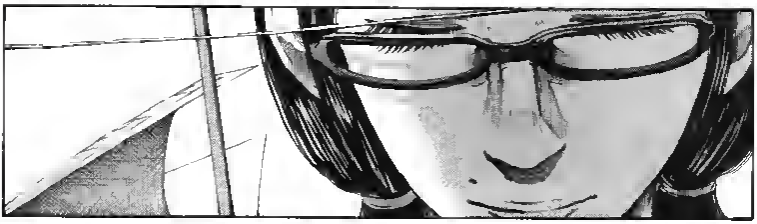
"...IS MANGA ALRIGHT WITH YOU?"

YOU WHO DOESN'T EVEN KNOW THE FIRST THING ABOUT MANGA, ARE GOING TO WRITE A MANGA?
WHAT.. ARE YOU GOING TO WRITE UP A STORY?
"DON'T YOU THINK IT'S A LITTLE HYPOCRITICAL TO SAY THAT AFTER YOUR SPEECH JUST A MOMENT AGO?
THERE ARE SOME THINGS,
YOU JUST CAN'T MAKE COME TRUE WITH DREAMS ALONE

"THAT'S RIGHT, I *WILL* WRITE A MANGA! I'LL WRITE IT AND RE-WRITE IT AS MANY TIMES AS IT TAKES UNTIL YOU THINK IT'S GOOD ENOUGH!!"

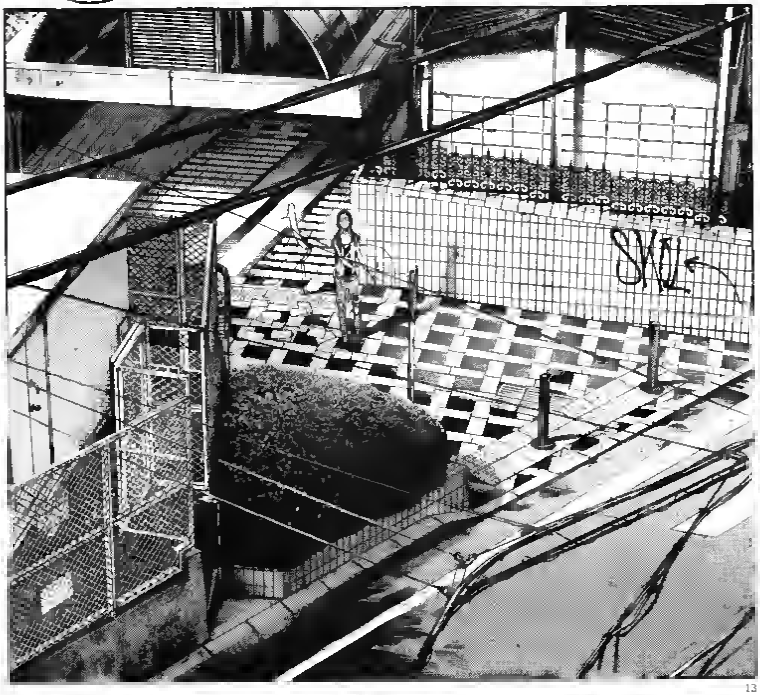


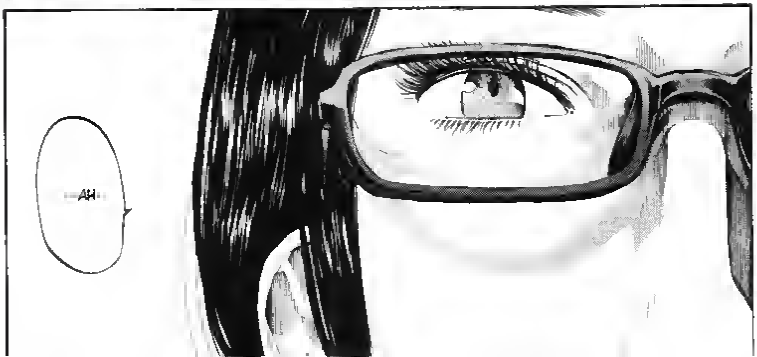
"I'VE... REALIZED THE JOY IN BEING COMPLIMENTED BY OTHERS."



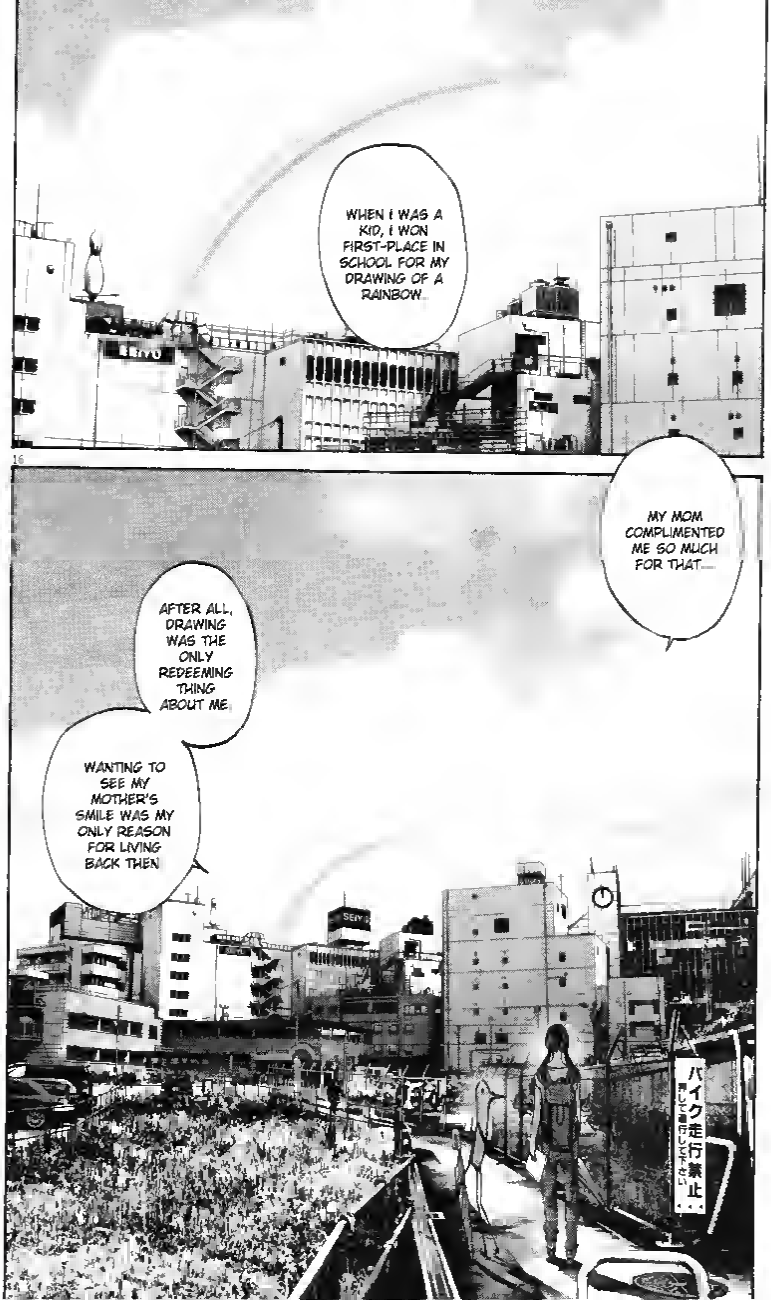
"AND I DON'T WANT TO BE BEATEN BY SOMEONE AS RUDE AS YOU!!"

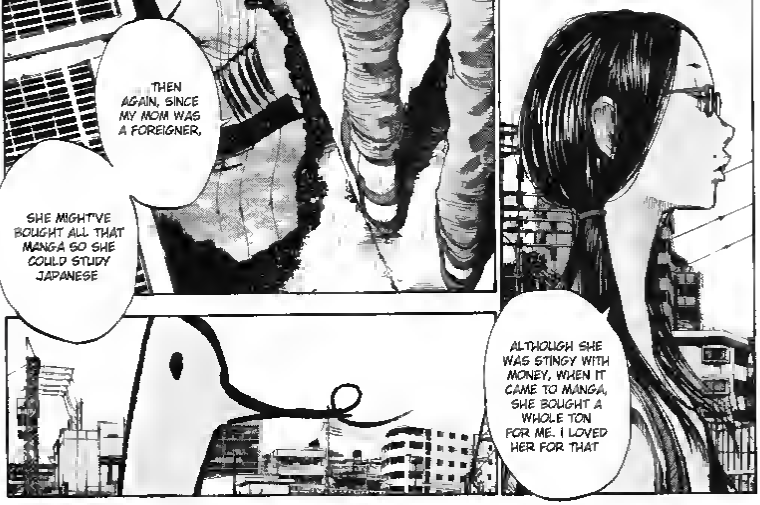
I REALLY JUST MIGHT BREAK DOWN, YOU KNOW...
...IF I FAIL AGAIN,

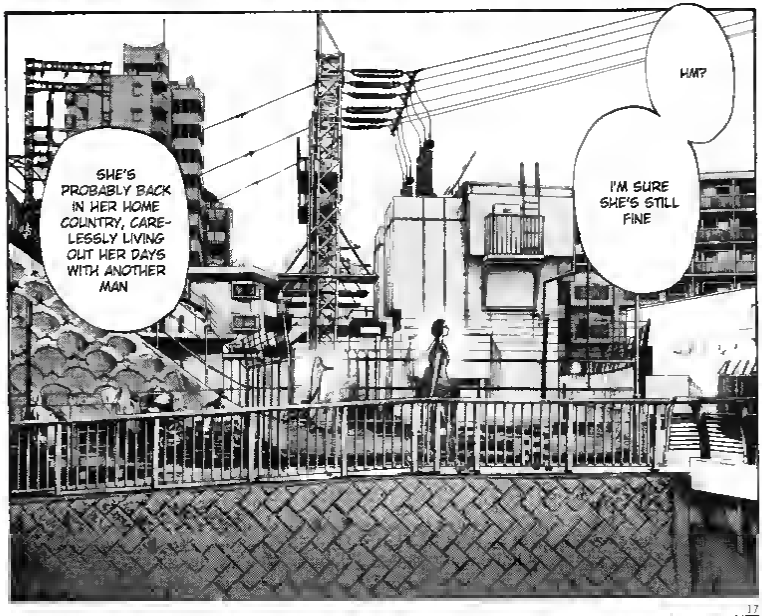


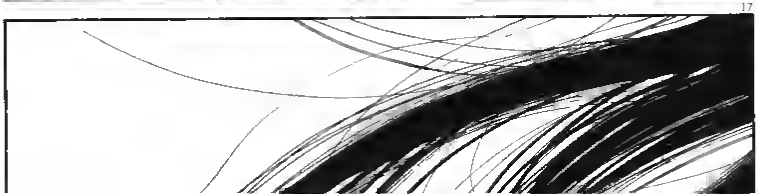

...AH...

RAINBOW...


WHEN I WAS A KID, I WON FIRST-PLACE IN SCHOOL FOR MY DRAWING OF A RAINBOW.
MY MOM COMPLIMENTED ME SO MUCH FOR THAT...
AFTER ALL, DRAWING WAS THE ONLY REDEEMING THING ABOUT ME.
WANTING TO SEE MY MOTHER'S SMILE WAS MY ONLY REASON FOR LIVING BACK THEN.
バイク走行禁止
悪しき者は忍び込むな

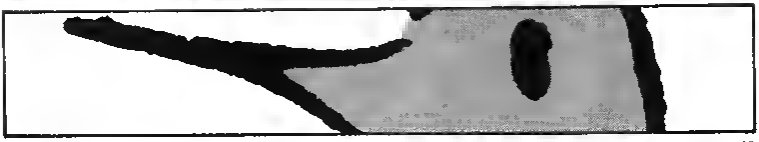

THEN AGAIN, SINCE MY MOM WAS A FOREIGNER,
SHE MIGHT'VE BOUGHT ALL THAT MANGA SO SHE COULD STUDY JAPANESE
ALTHOUGH SHE WAS STINGY WITH MONEY, WHEN IT CAME TO MANGA, SHE BOUGHT A WHOLE TON FOR ME. I LOVED HER FOR THAT


HM?
I'M SURE SHE'S STILL FINE
SHE'S PROBABLY BACK IN HER HOME COUNTRY, CARELESSLY LIVING OUT HER DAYS WITH ANOTHER MAN



...HMM.
ONODERA.
I THINK I'VE FINALLY REALIZED
PLEASE CALL ME SACHI FROM NOW ON.
EXACTLY WHAT IT IS I'VE BEEN LACKING

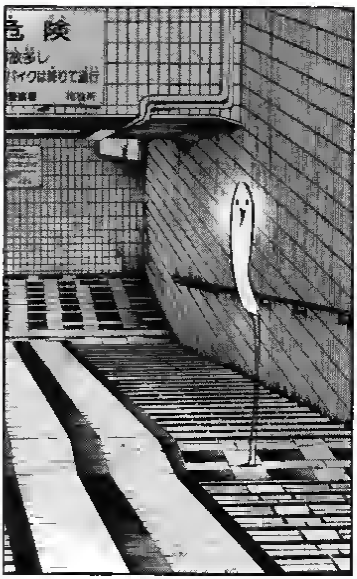
THIS TIME FOR SURE,
I'M GOING TO CRUSH THIS ROTTEN WORLD,
WITH MY OWN TWO HANDS



I'LL BE COUNTING ON YOU,
PUNPUN

ALTHOUGH PUNPUN COULDN'T DENY THE FACT HE FELT SCARED BY THIS NEW PRESSURE WEIGHING DOWN UPON HIM, HE DECIDED TO ENTRUST HIMSELF TO THE FLOW OF SUMMER FOR THE TIME BEING.

SACHI'S HANDS WERE MUCH LARGER AND ROUGHER THAN HE HAD EXPECTED IT TO BE AND REMINDED HIM OF ANOTHER PERSON'S HANDS. HOWEVER, HE COULD NOT REMEMBER WHO THAT PERSON WAS.

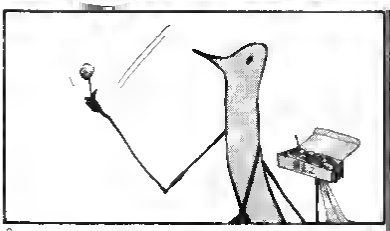

危険
放し
バイクは降りて通行

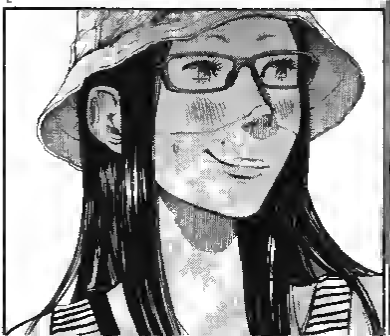
Chapter 85

HUH,
UH HUH...
HMM...
I SEE...
TO BE HONEST,
I THINK THE PLOT DEVELOPMENT IS TOO SUDDEN

I MEAN, IT'S ONLY BEEN A COUPLE WEEKS
AND YOU ALREADY CAME UP WITH THIS MANY IDEAS
I STILL THINK YOU'RE DOING QUITE WELL.
BUT...

BECAUSE I'M AIMING TO GET THIS DONE BEFORE THE END OF SUMMER.
SO I HOPE YOU CAN BEAR MY PICKY CRITI-CISMS FOR A BIT LONGER.



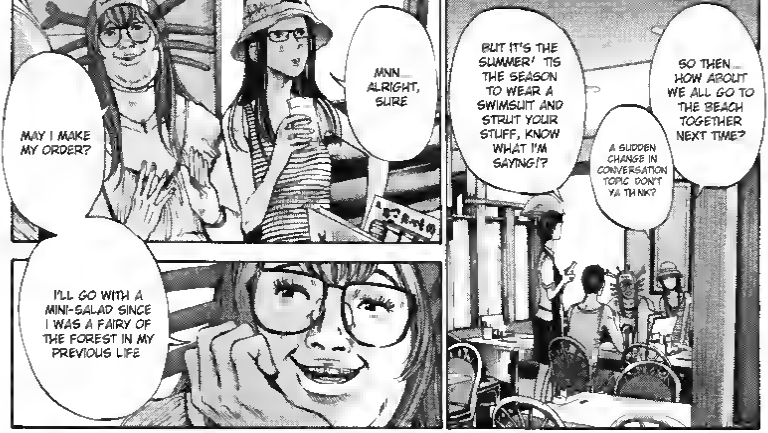


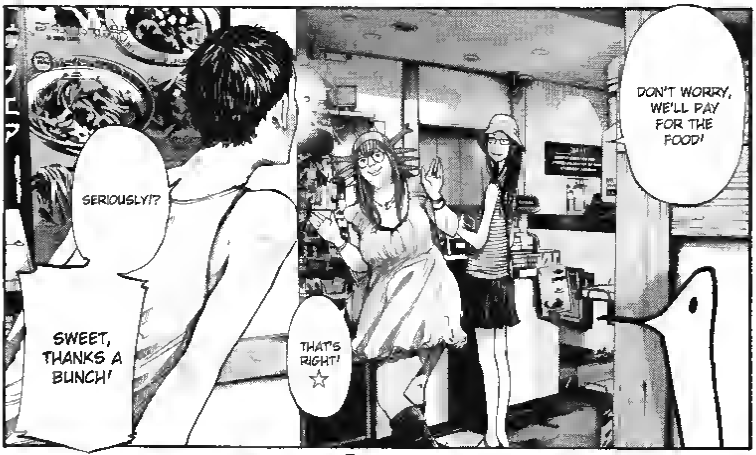
AAAN~

HI THERE
NICE TO MEET'CHA ALL!
I'M PUNPUN'S OLD CLASS-MATE MIMURA!
YOU CAN CALL ME MAD-ABS MIMURA IF YOU WANT!

than'S
24

HMM, SO YOU LIKE FANTASY AND MOE MANGA, MIMURA..
YOU KNOW, I'VE KNOWN ONO-D HERE EVER SINCE HE WAS THIIIIS SMALL,
UH YEAH, IS THAT SURPRISING?
I'D NEVER HAVE THOUGHT MY MANGA COLLECTION WOULD BE OF ANY USE TO HIM!
ALL HE EVER SEEMED TO DO IS PLAY GAMES BY HIMSELF!
BUT I HAD NO IDEA HE WAS INTERESTED IN MANGA!

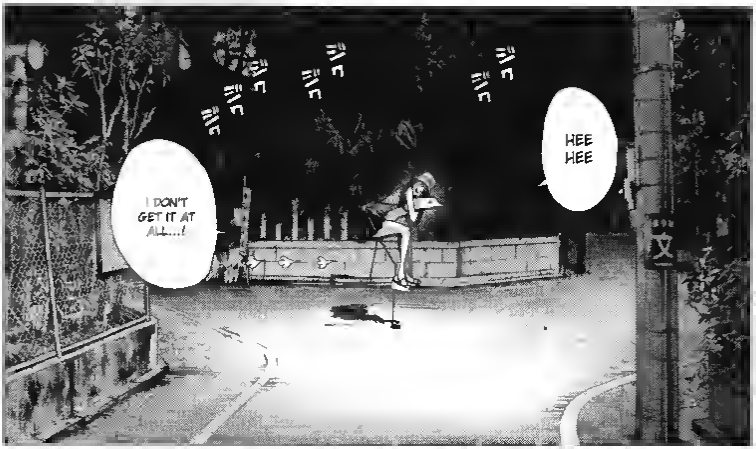

MAY I MAKE MY ORDER?
MNN... ALRIGHT, SURE
I'LL GO WITH A MINI-SALAD SINCE I WAS A FAIRY OF THE FOREST IN MY PREVIOUS LIFE
BUT IT'S THE SUMMER! 'TIS THE SEASON TO WEAR A SWIMSUIT AND STRUT YOUR STUFF, KNOW WHAT I'M SAYING!?
A SUDDEN CHANGE IN CONVERSATION TOPIC DON'T YA THINK?
SO THEN... HOW ABOUT WE ALL GO TO THE BEACH TOGETHER NEXT TIME?


SERIOUSLY!?
SWEET, THANKS A BUNCH!
THAT'S RIGHT! ☆
DON'T WORRY, WE'LL PAY FOR THE FOOD!

ATTA BOY, ONO-D!

WHAT I REALLY WANNA DRAW...
IT'S JUST...
IT'S JUST NOT IT...
IS NOT A STORY WITH EMOTIONAL IMPACT ONLY VALID FOR AT THAT PLACE AND TIME,
BUT SOMETHING THAT CAN SPEAK FOR AND AFFECT LIFE ITSELF...
IT'S NOT A MANGA YOU READ TO ESCAPE FROM REALITY,
IT'S A MANGA YOU READ TO FIGHT REALITY!!!
NOT QUITE SURE HOW TO PUT IT...
UMMM...
SO TO SUM IT UP...
MMM...
IT'S NICE THAT YOU AREN'T TOO SMART.
PUNPUN...
DON'T LET THIS WORLD POISON YOUR MIND AND SELF...
IT'S BEST IF YOU KEEP THINKING AS YOU YOURSELF...

AHH!
I GOT IT!
NOPE, NEVER MIND.


HEE HEE
I DON'T GET IT AT ALL...!

BFFT,

SO HOT...

EL NIÑO.

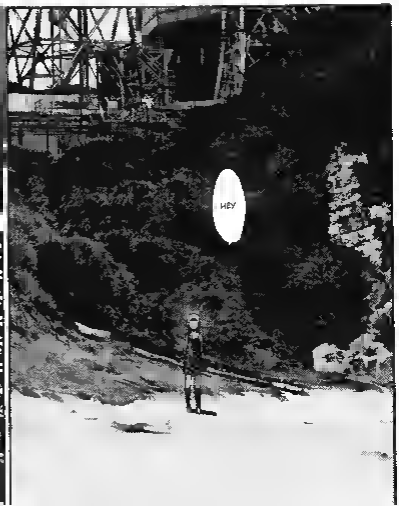
"YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T DRINK SO MUCH."
SHADDUP!
JUST WORRY ABOUT YOUR OWN DAMN SELF!
"SACHI... I'LL KEEP ON TRYING HARDER."

MN...

SEE YA.
PUNPUN.

TO BE FRANK...
PUNPUN WAS A
LITTLE DISAPPOINTED.

"AREN'T I DOING WELL
ENOUGH ALREADY?"
PUNPUN THOUGHT.



HE WAS SURE IF HE SCREWED UP EVEN A BIT, HE'D BE THROWN BACK DOWN INTO THE DEEP ABYSS.

...IN THE END, HE WAS STILL THE SAME OLD PUNPUN AS EVER. THE SAME OLD PATHETIC PUNPUN WHO COULDN'T DO A THING TO BETTER HIMSELF WITHOUT THE HELP OF OTHERS.

HEE HEE

HOWEVER...

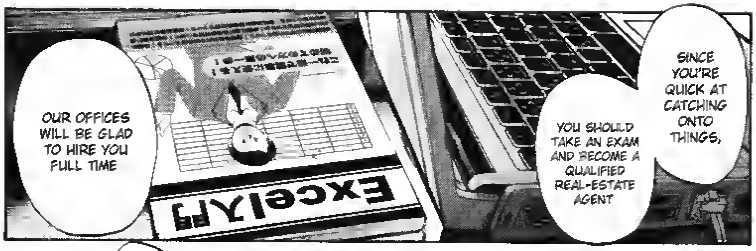
TO PUNPUN, THE SEEMINGLY UNMEANINGFUL WORDS, "SEE YA," SPOKEN BY SACHI WERE MAGICAL WORDS THAT TRANSFORMED THE NEXT DAY INTO A DAY WORTH LIVING.

IS THIS YOUR FIRST TIME AT OUR STORE?
UMM...
女教師
休日出勤
YOU CAN'T MAKE A MEMBERSHIP CARD IF I DON'T SEE YOUR DRIVER'S LICENSE

ピュピュィ
ピュピュィ
ピュピュィ
ピュピュィ

ONODERA

I KNEW I WAS RIGHT IN ASKING A YOUNG MAN TO HELP ME WITH ALL THIS FANCY HI-TECH STUFF
YOU'VE BEEN A TREMENDOUS HELP!
THANKS TO YOU, I GUESS I'VE FINALLY ENTERED THE AGE OF COMPUTERS!


OUR OFFICES WILL BE GLAD TO HIRE YOU FULL TIME
YOU SHOULD TAKE AN EXAM AND BECOME A QUALIFIED REAL-ESTATE AGENT
SINCE YOU'RE QUICK AT CATCHING ONTO THINGS,

HM?
WHAT DID YOU SAY JUST NOW?

WELL, MISUZU? DON'T YOU THINK HE'S HANDY TOO?

AH, CAN YOU GO THROW AWAY THAT POSTER?
TODAY'S THE LAST DAY FOR THAT EVENT!

Poster reads 62nd Grand Fireworks Festival

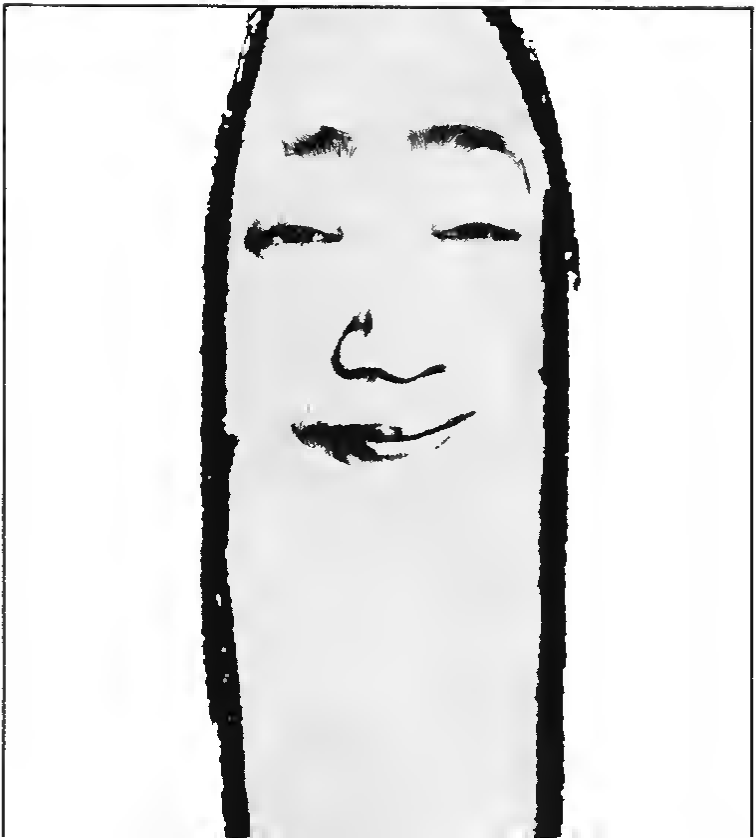
TONIGHT?
COULDN'T YOU HAVE ASKED A LITTLE SOONER?
BUT FIREWORKS SOUND NICE.
MY SUMMER CLASSES END AT 5:00 SO HOW ABOUT WE MEET UP AT THE STATION AT 5:30?

SHE'LL COME...
OR NOT...?
NO, SHE WILL!
THEN AGAIN...

NO, SHE'LL COME!
OR MAYBE SHE WON'T?
ALRIGHT, C'MON!
COME TO PAPA!

HEY SACHI.
OH HEY, DID YOU WAIT LONG?
←2F
HELP ME CARRY THIS STUFF, WILL YA?
←2F
WHAT ARE YOU DRAWING MANGA AGAIN?

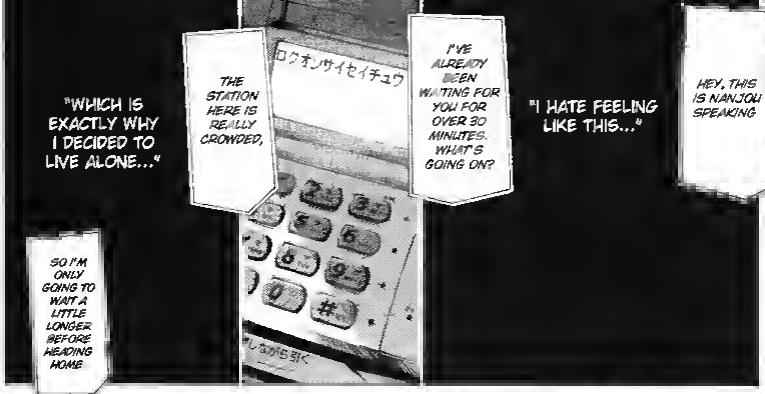
FUCKING BITCH....!
FOR CHRIST'S SAKE, TELL ME BEFORE-HAND IF YOU HAVE A BOYFRIEND,



RRRRR

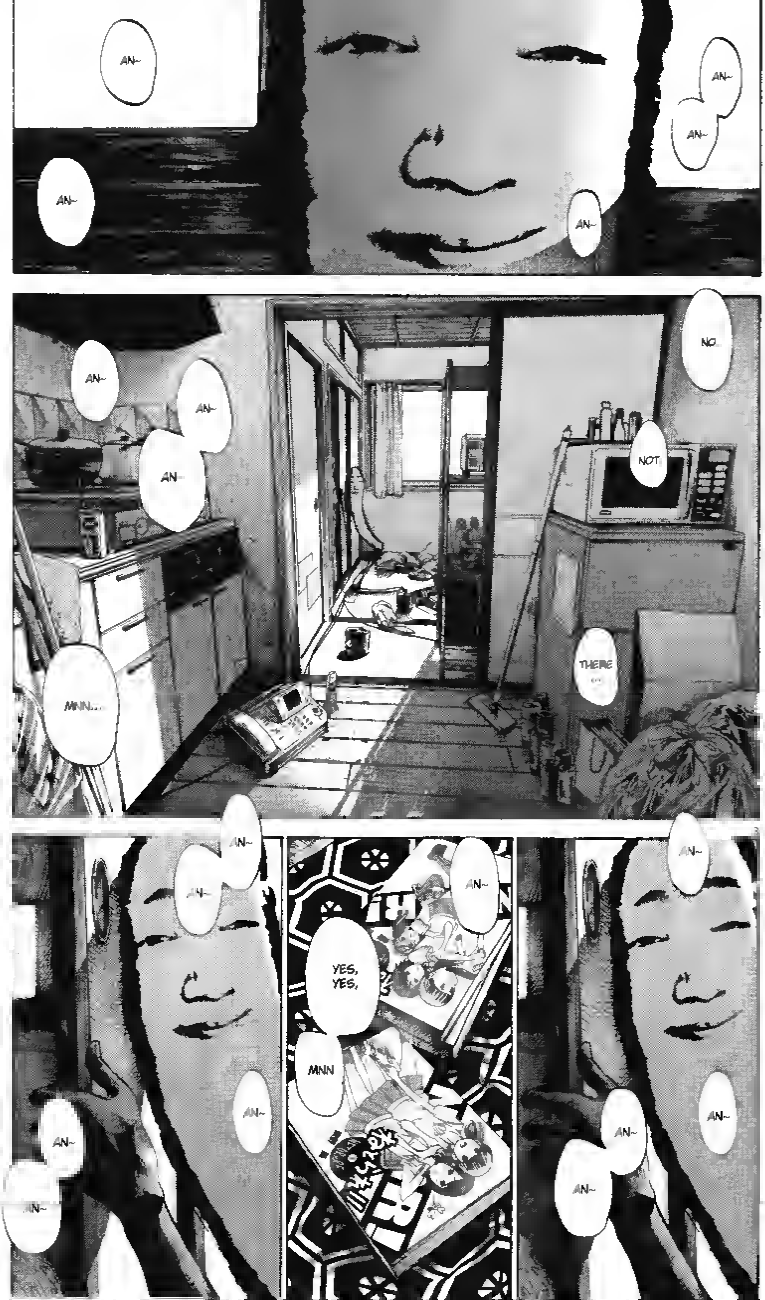
RRRRR
RRRRR
RRRRR
RRRRR

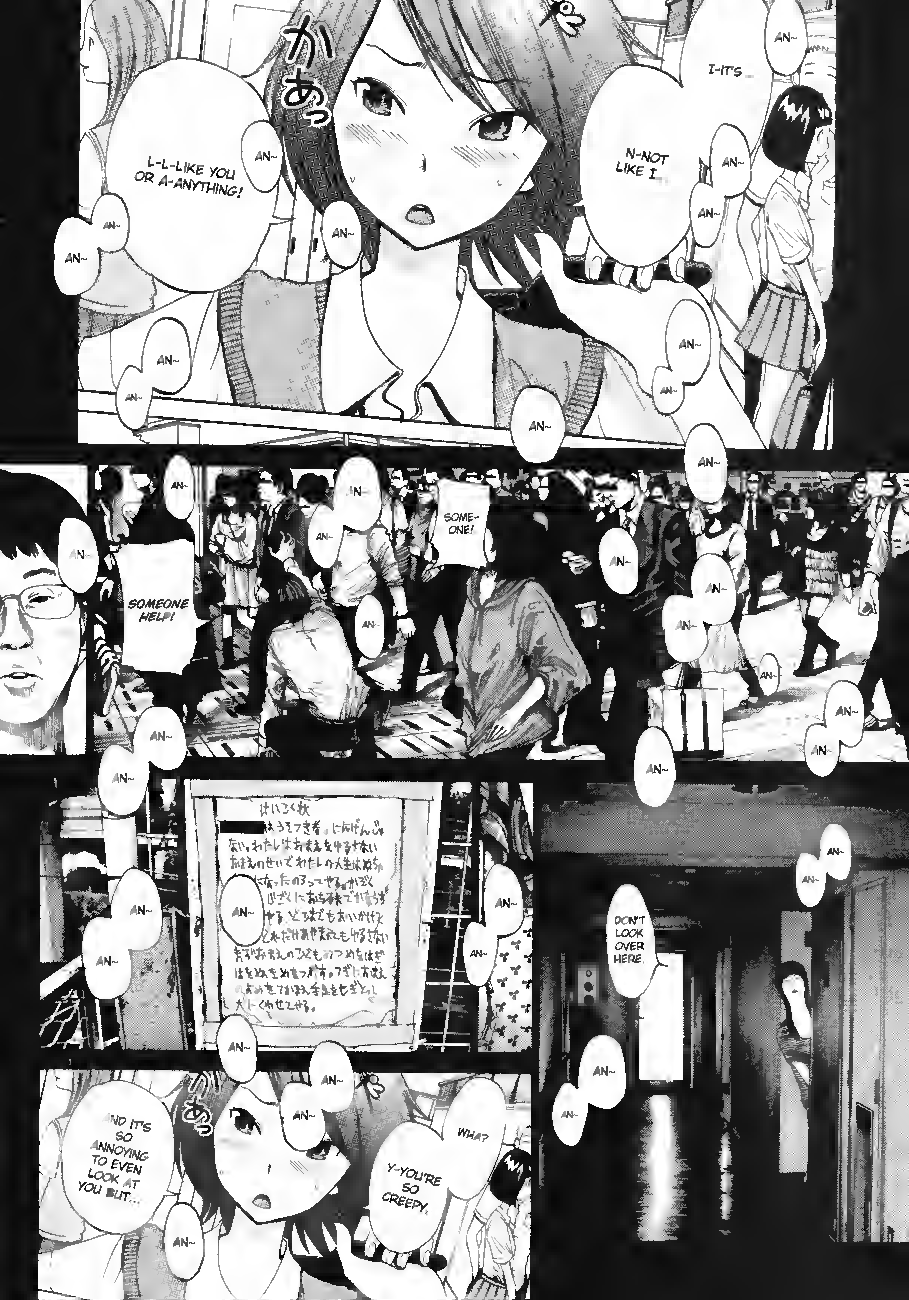
HELLO, I'M NOT AT HOME RIGHT NOW,
SO PLEASE LEAVE YOUR NAME AND MESSAGE AT THE SOUND OF THE BEEP...


"WHICH IS EXACTLY WHY I DECIDED TO LIVE ALONE..."
THE STATION HERE IS REALLY CROWDED,
SO I'M ONLY GOING TO WAIT A LITTLE LONGER BEFORE HEADING HOME
I'VE ALREADY BEEN WAITING FOR YOU FOR OVER 30 MINUTES. WHAT'S GOING ON?
"I HATE FEELING LIKE THIS..."
HEY, THIS IS NANJOU SPEAKING

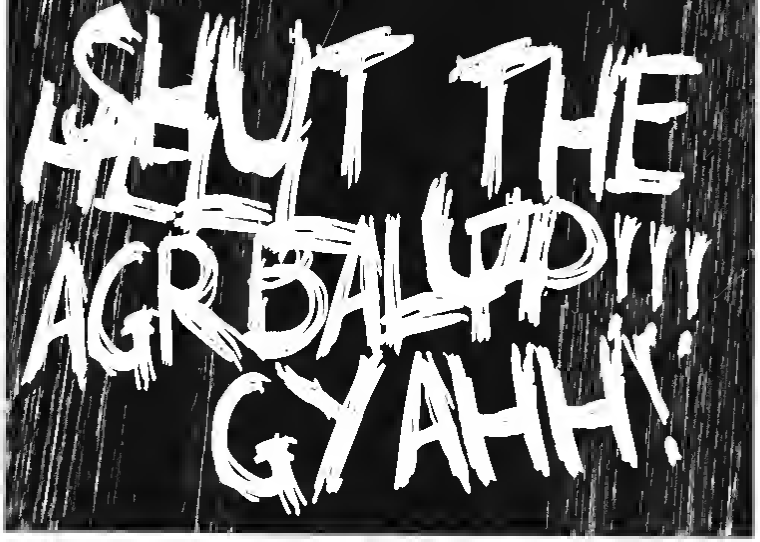
2

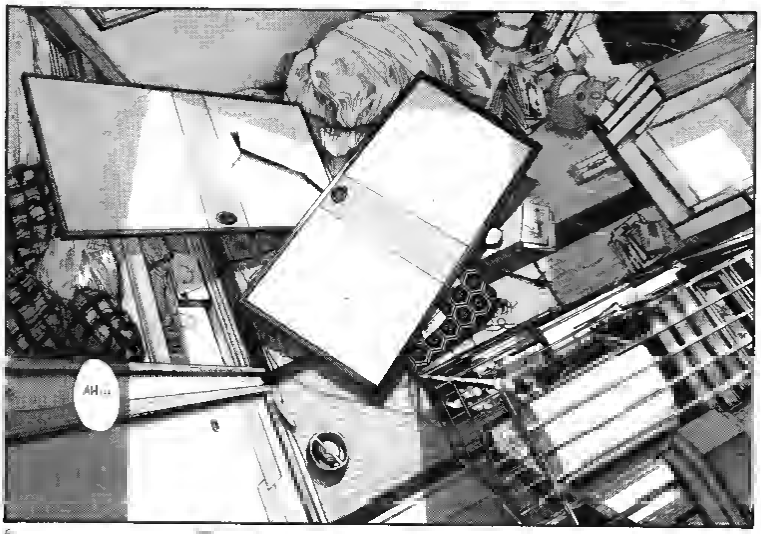
"THIS IS WHAT I GET FOR LETTING MY GUARD DOWN FOR EVEN A SECOND."


AN~
AN~
AN~
AN~
AN~
AN~
AN~
AN~
NO...
NOT.
THERE ...
MNN...
AN~
AN~
AN~
AN~
AN~
AN~
YES, YES.
MNN
AN~
AN~
AN~
AN~

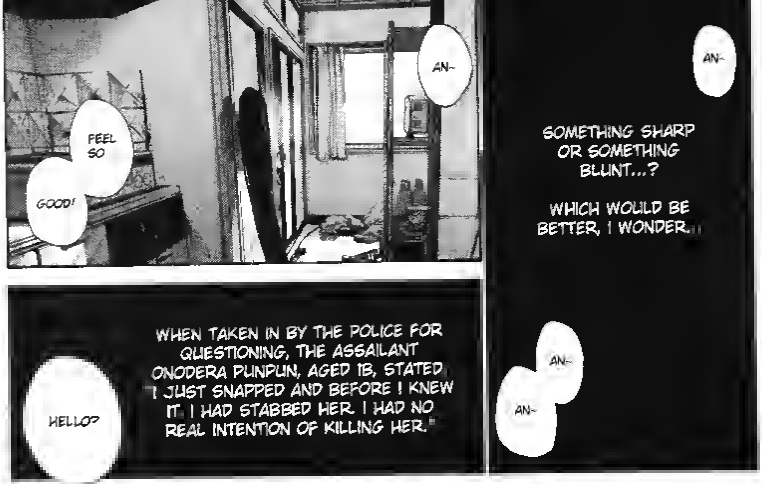

かあっ
L-L-LIKE YOU OR A-ANYTHING!
I-IT'S...
N-NOT LIKE I...
AN~
SOMEONE HELP!
SOME-ONE!
IN~
DON'T LOOK OVER HERE.
はいこく女
WHAT?
Y-YOU'RE SO CREEPY.
かあっ
NO IT'S SO ANNOYING TO EVEN LOOK AT YOU ■UT...

WOULD IT BE ALRIGHT IF I LICKED YOUR PUSSY?
AN~
AN~
WAIT!
AH!
OWW!
I'LL DIE!
W~
AN~
I LIKE YOU SOOO MUCH!
I LIKE YOU PUNPUN!
AN~
I LOVE YOU!
I DON'T NEED ANYTHING ELSE IN THIS WORLD EXCEPT YOU!
AN~
AN~
WHY DON'T YOU JUST GO JERK OFF ALONE FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE...
あっ
T,
J-JEEZ.
YOU'RE SUCH A PATHETIC PERSON...
AN~
AN~
LOVE,
YOU
AN~
AN~
AN~
AN~
AN~
AN~
AN~
AN~
AN~
AN~
PYAPO! PYAPO! PUGYAH!
COWARD!
AN~
AN~
AN~
AN~
LOVE
YOU!
AN~
AN~
T,


SHUT THE
AGRBALLPP!!!
GYAHH!


AH...

AN
AN-
AN-


AN-
FEEL SO GOOD!
AN-
SOMETHING SHARP OR SOMETHING BLUNT...?
WHICH WOULD BE BETTER, I WONDER...
HELLO?
WHEN TAKEN IN BY THE POLICE FOR QUESTIONING, THE ASSAILANT ONODERA PUNPUN, AGED 18, STATED, "I JUST SNAPPED AND BEFORE I KNEW IT, I HAD STABBED HER. I HAD NO REAL INTENTION OF KILLING HER."
AN-
AN-

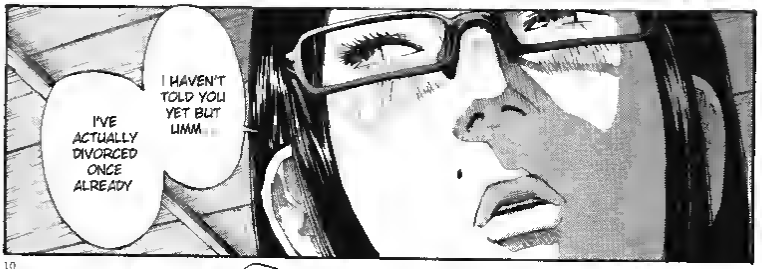
PUNPUN?

HUH?
THE DOOR'S UNLOCKED...
ONODERA PUNPUN, YOU THERE?

JEEZE,
PICK UP THE DAMN PHONE IF YOU WERE HOME ALL ALONG...
WHAT'S WRONG?
YOU'RE LYING.
"SORRY... IT SEEMS I'VE SUDDENLY CAUGHT A COLD. *COUGH COUGH*..."
"YES, I'M LYING..."

"UHH... WELL, UMM... I UHH... I CAUGHT A COLD SO I DON'T THINK I CAN GO WITH YOU TO SEE THE FIREWORKS, SORRY! B-BUT WHY DON'T YOU GO WITH YOUR BOYFRIEND INSTEAD? A-AFTER ALL, YOU HAVE SUCH A NICE BOYFRIEND WHO'LL EVEN COME PICK YOU UP AFTER WORK AND ALL... HAHA... HAHAHA!"

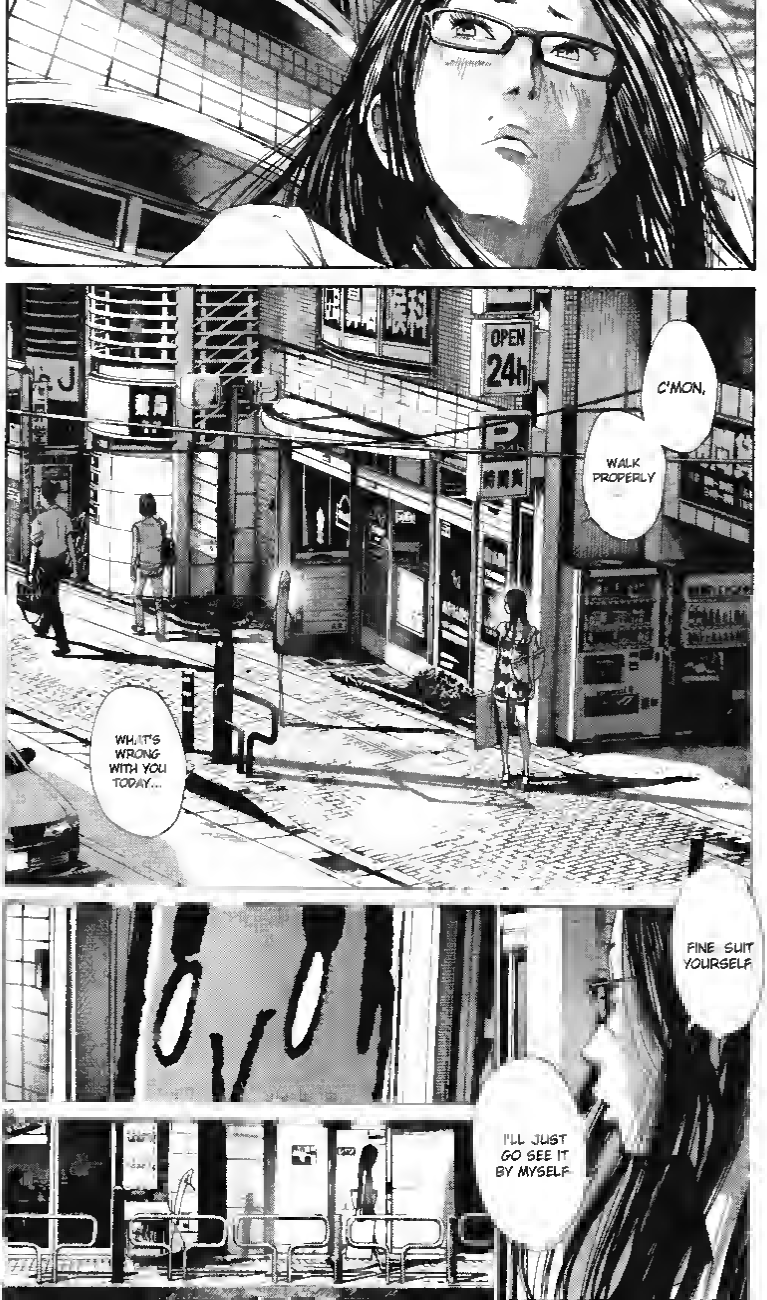
THAT GUY'S NOT MY BOYFRIEND
HE'S MY EX-HUSBAND


I HAVEN'T TOLD YOU YET BUT UMM...
I'VE ACTUALLY DIVORCED ONCE ALREADY

WELL REMEMBER WHAT I WAS SAYING BEFORE?
ABOUT THAT CREEPY COWORKER WHO'S BEEN STALKING ME?
I WAS A LITTLE WORRIED SO I ASKED HIM TO COME PICK ME UP JUST IN ANY CASE ANYTHING BAD MIGHT HAPPEN
WHAT!?

I DON'T HAVE VERY MANY GUY FRIENDS. JUST TO LET YOU KNOW.
SO DON'T PAY ANY HEED TO HIM...
NOW LET'S GO ALREADY!
OH MAN, I'M JUST LETTING OUT ALL MY CATS OUT OF THE BAG, AREN'T I...

C'MON, HURRY UP!
I DON'T WANNA HAVE TO SEE THE FIREWORKS FROM A CROWDED TRAIN!


OPEN
24h
P
C'MON,
WALK PROPERLY
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU TODAY...
FINE SUIT YOURSELF
I'LL JUST GO SEE IT BY MYSELF

"BUT ME, ON THE OTHER HAND... I'M JUST A SELFISH LOW LIFE WHO ALWAYS GETS THE WRONG IDEA... SO IF YOU CONTINUE TREAT ME SO NICELY..."

"SACHI, YOU'RE SUCH A KIND AND WONDERFUL GIRL THAT CAN JUST DECIDE TO TREAT ANYONE NICELY WITHOUT ANY BIAS...!"

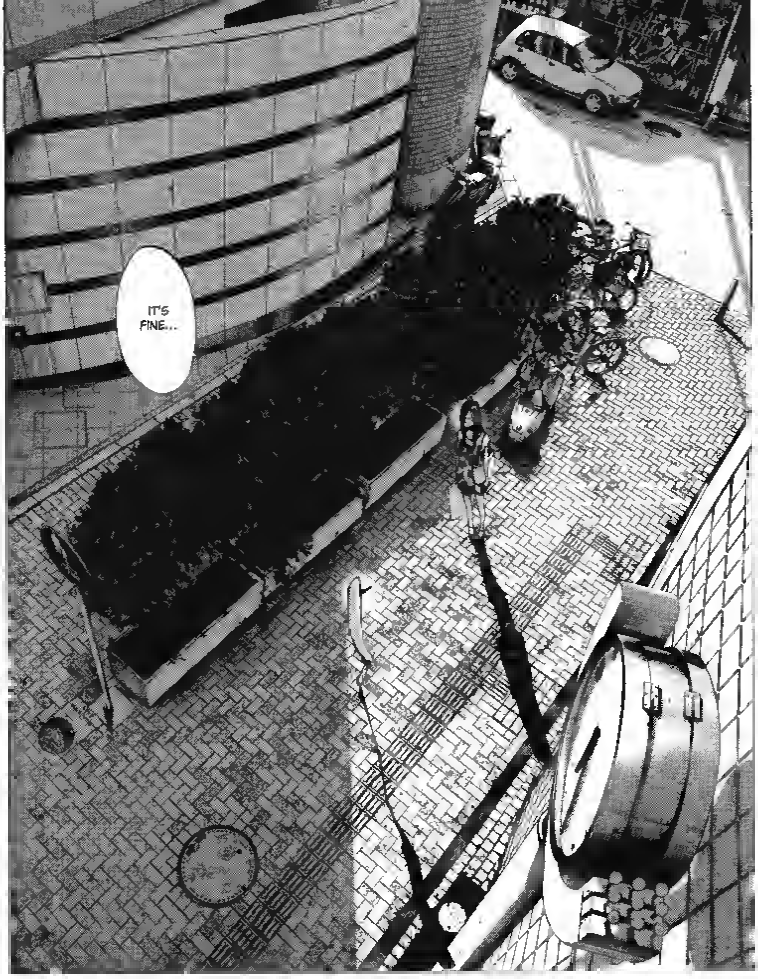
"...I'LL SERIOUSLY END UP FALLING IN LOVE WITH YOU."

kashicomo
Tully's
止まれ

"I'M ALREADY MORE THAN HAPPY WITH OUR CURRENT RELATIONSHIP...!"

"I JUST REALLY NEEDED TO SAY THAT OUT ALOUD FOR MY OWN GOOD. PLEASE JUST FORGET WHAT I SAID..."

"ALRIGHT THEN! LET'S HURRY UP AND GO SEE THE FIREWORKS!"

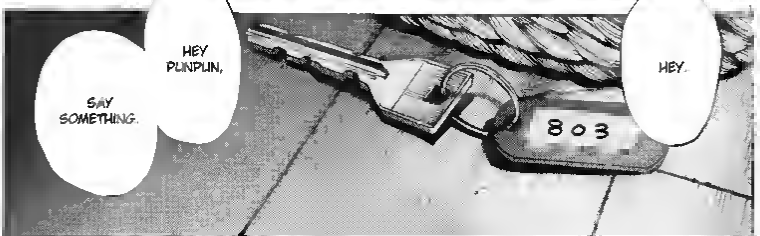

IT'S FINE...

IF YOU FALL IN LOVE WITH ME
IT'S FINE WITH ME

貸店

CAN'T BELIEVE I WALKED AROUND ALL DAY ONLY TO END UP NOT GOING...
BUT OH WELL,
HERE MIGHT ACTUALLY BE FOR THE BEST.
IT WOULD'VE BEEN TOTALLY JAMMED PACK WITH PEOPLE IF WE WENT...

THE MANAGER'LL PROBABLY GET MAD AT US
IF WE KNEW WE CAME IN HERE WITHOUT PERMISSION BUT,...


HEY.
803
HEY PLINPLIN,
SAY SOMETHING.

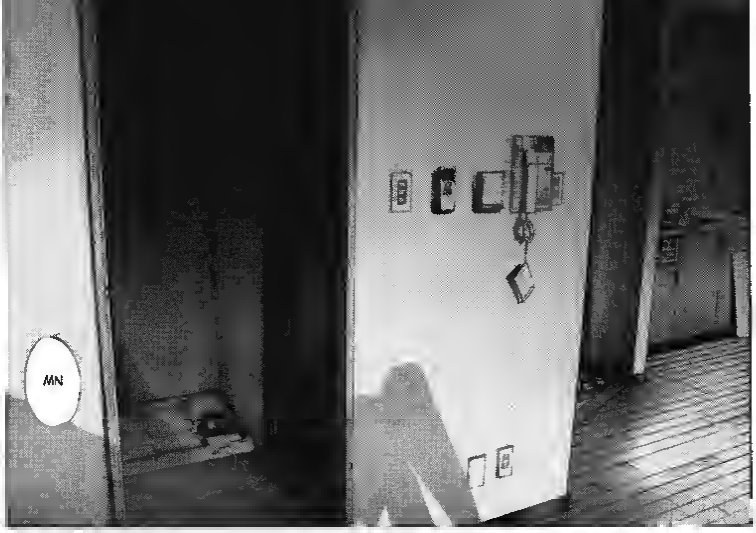
OH IS THAT SO
"I'VE LATELY BEEN THINKING ABOUT HOW YOU REMIND ME OF SOMEONE..."

"I STILL DON'T LIKE MY MOTHER VERY MUCH AND I DOUBT I WILL EVEN IN THE FUTURE BUT..."

"I'VE REALIZED THAT SOMEONE IS MY DEAD MOTHER. YOU REMIND ME OF HER IN YOUR PERSONALITY OR GENERAL ATMOSPHERE."

"...I'M NOT QUITE SURE HOW TO PUT IT OTHER THAN THAT'S JUST THE WAY IT IS."

I SEE...


MM

AH
MM,
AH.

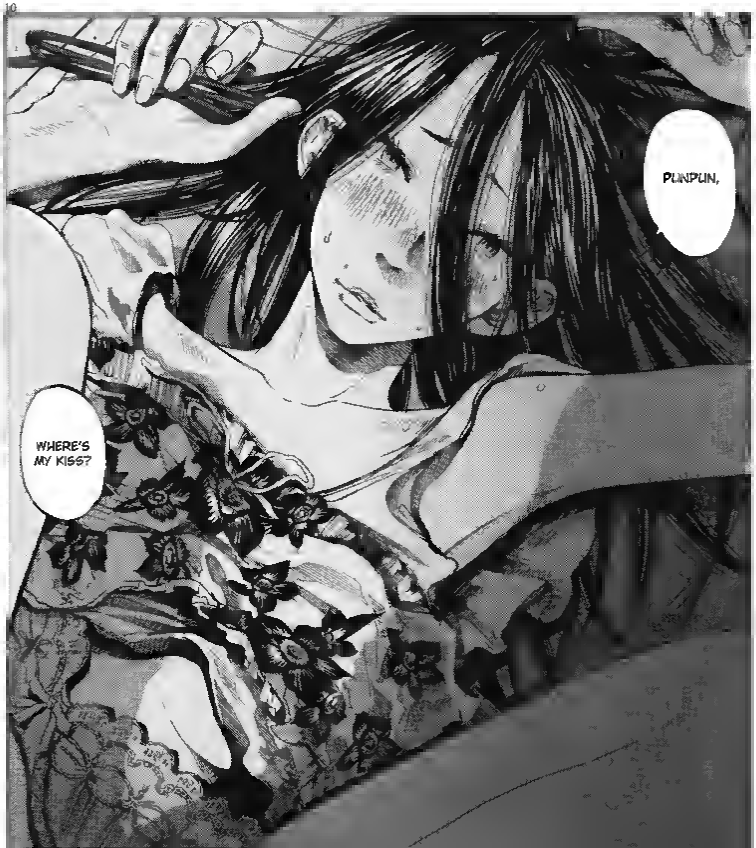
GO IT.
MORE SLOWLY

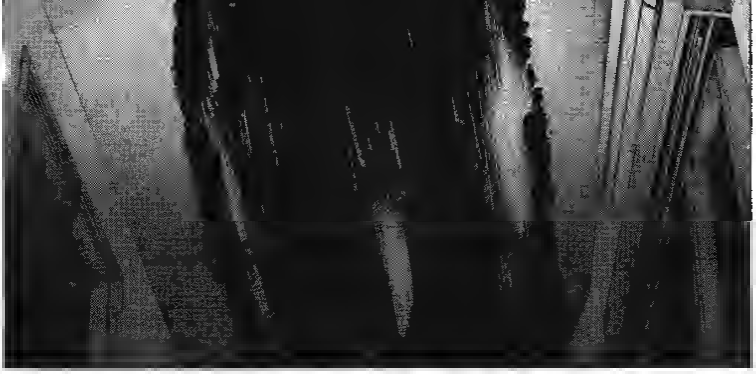
FUNFUN.
YOU TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTHESE TOO

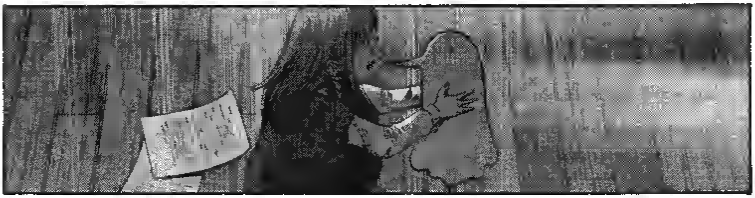
...GOODBYE, KANIE.
...GOODBYE, MIDORI.

...GOODBYE, AIKO.

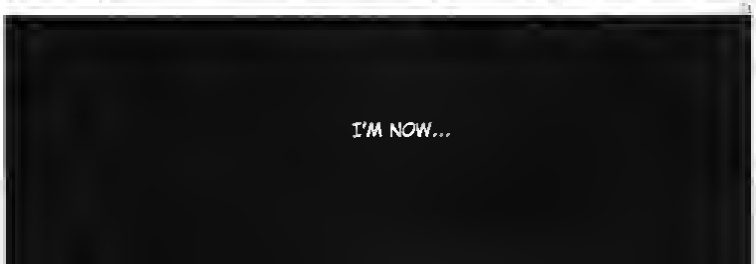
...I'M ALRIGHT NOW.



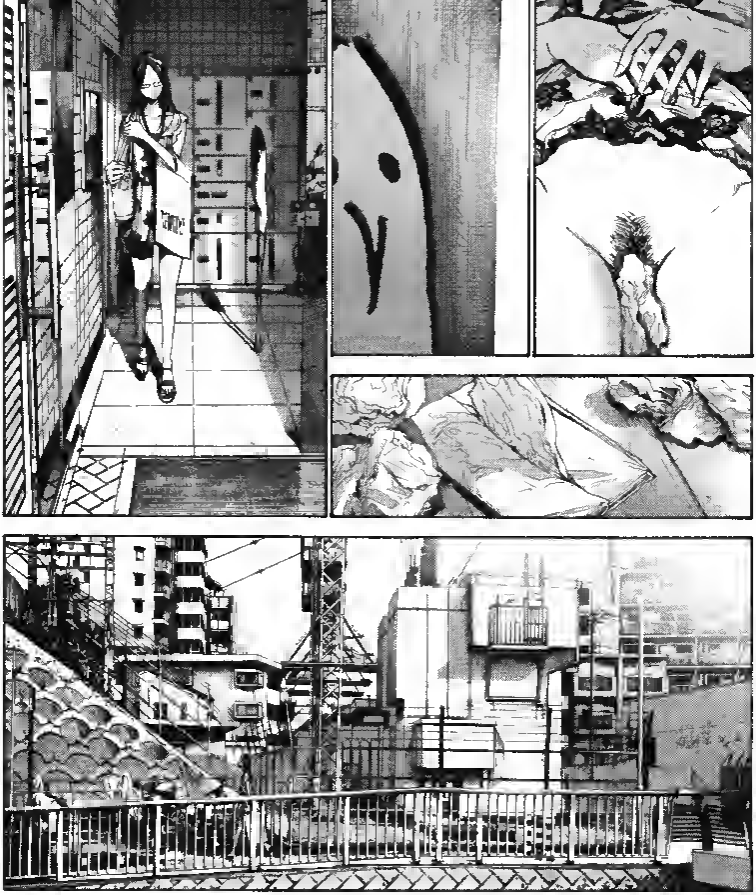




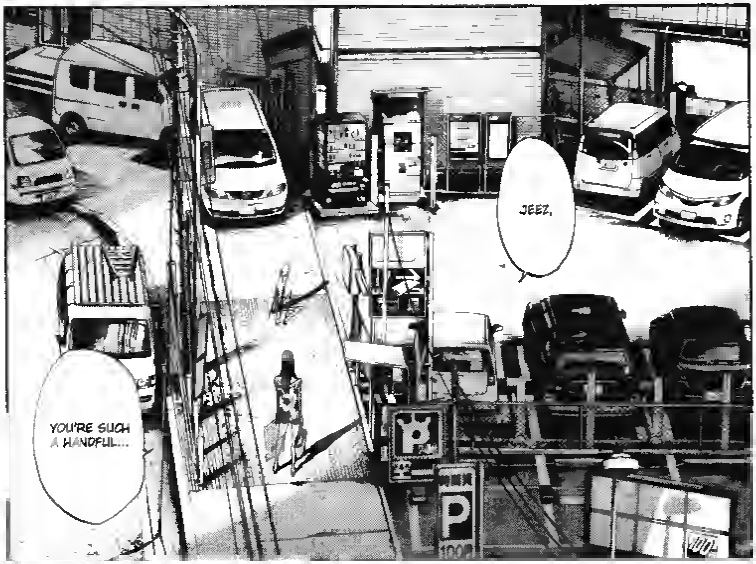
PLINPLIN,
I SAID WHERE'S MY KISS?


I'M NOW...

JOEIDO
シモクラ


"PLEASE CALL ME A YELLOW-LIVERED DICKHEAD FROM NOW ON."
"...SACHI."
WHAT?

"IF IT WERE THAT EASY FOR ALL MY LIFE'S PROBLEMS TO BE RESOLVED WITH HAVING SEX JUST ONCE..."



"I'VE NEVER FACED SUCH A DAY FULL OF DESPAIR AS TODAY."

I'D NEVER HAVE DONE WHAT I DID IF I DIDN'T ACTUALLY LIKE YOU.

I MEAN, I DO FEEL A LITTLE LONELY OVER WHAT HAPPENED BUT,

AND JUST BECAUSE WE'VE HAD SEX ONCE.

DOESN'T MEAN YOU AND I SUDDENLY HAVE TO START ACTING LIKE LOVERS

OUR RELATIONSHIP'S STILL THE SAME AS EVER.

I'LL BE STANDING BY YOUR SIDE AS YOUR ALLY,

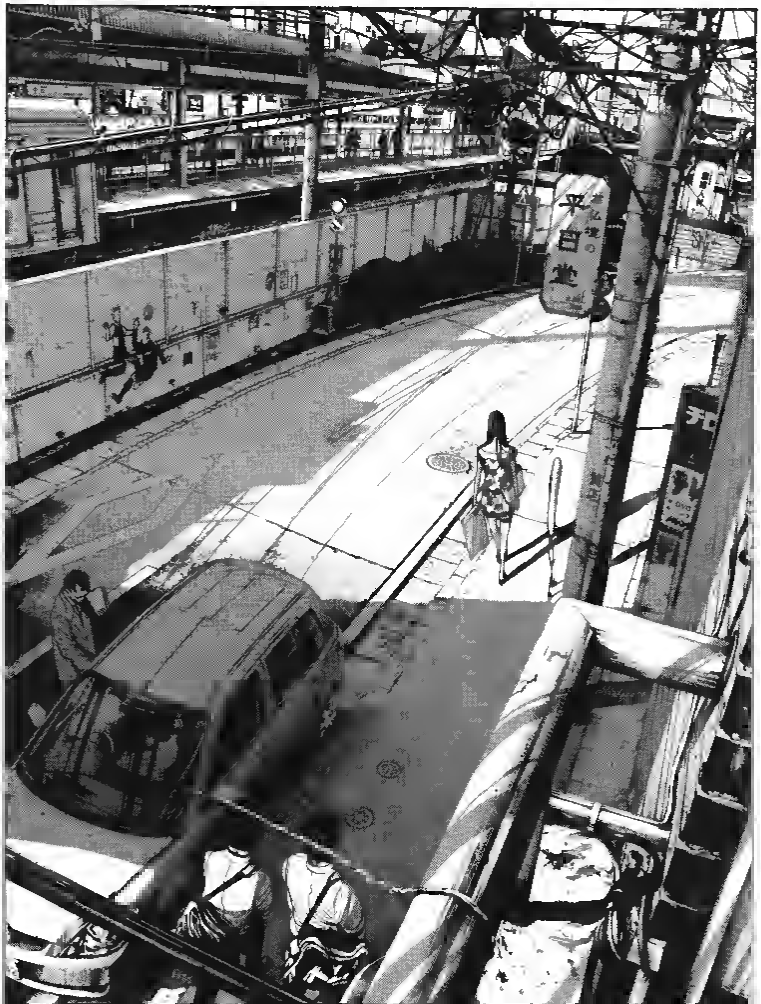
AND YOU CAN REMAIN BEING YOU.

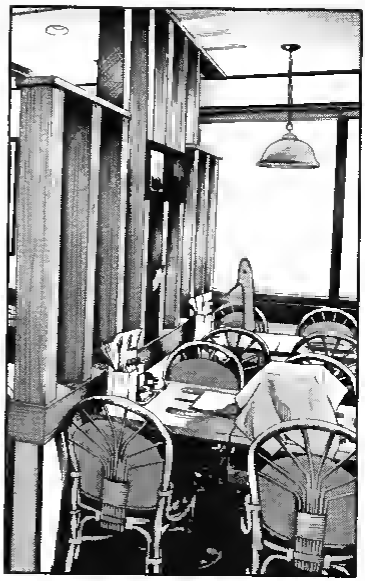
THAT'S WHAT I THINK

HEY...
CLOSE YOUR EYES FOR A SEC
DON'T BE SUCH A WORRYWART
ポイント
貯まる!

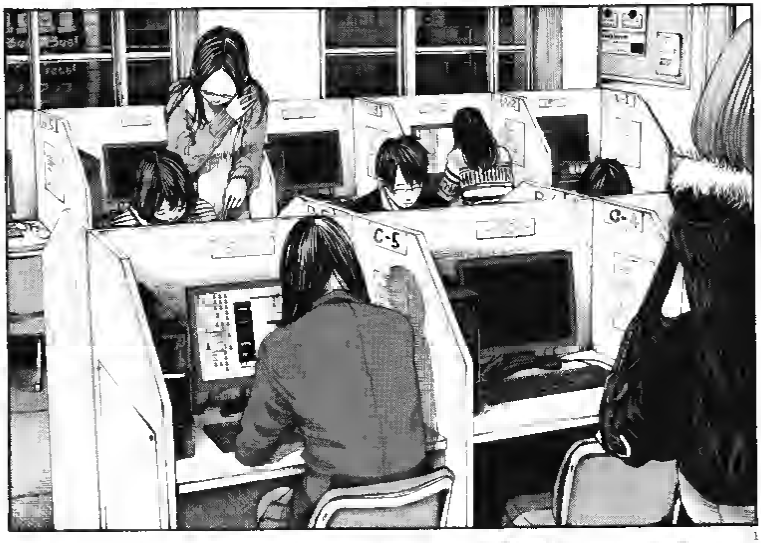
ハイストーンビル
ハイストーンビル

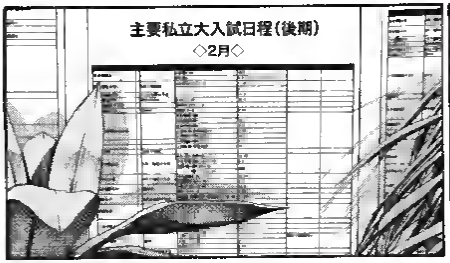
ジワ
ジワ
ジワ
ジワ
ジワ
ショルノ
HOSUDO

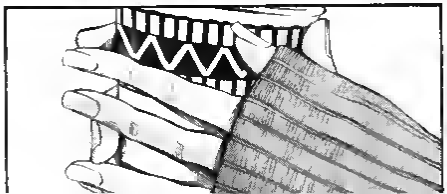

平田堂



ン・デジタル家

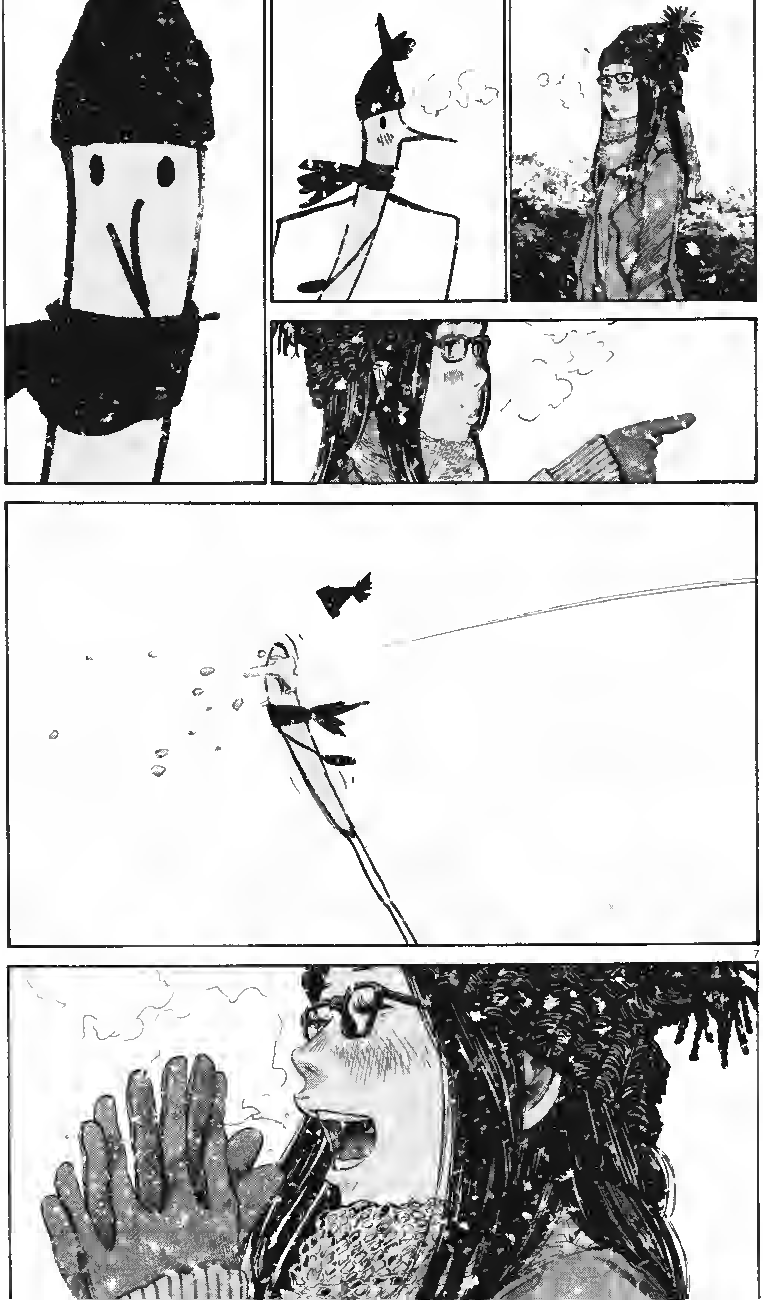

C-5
C-4

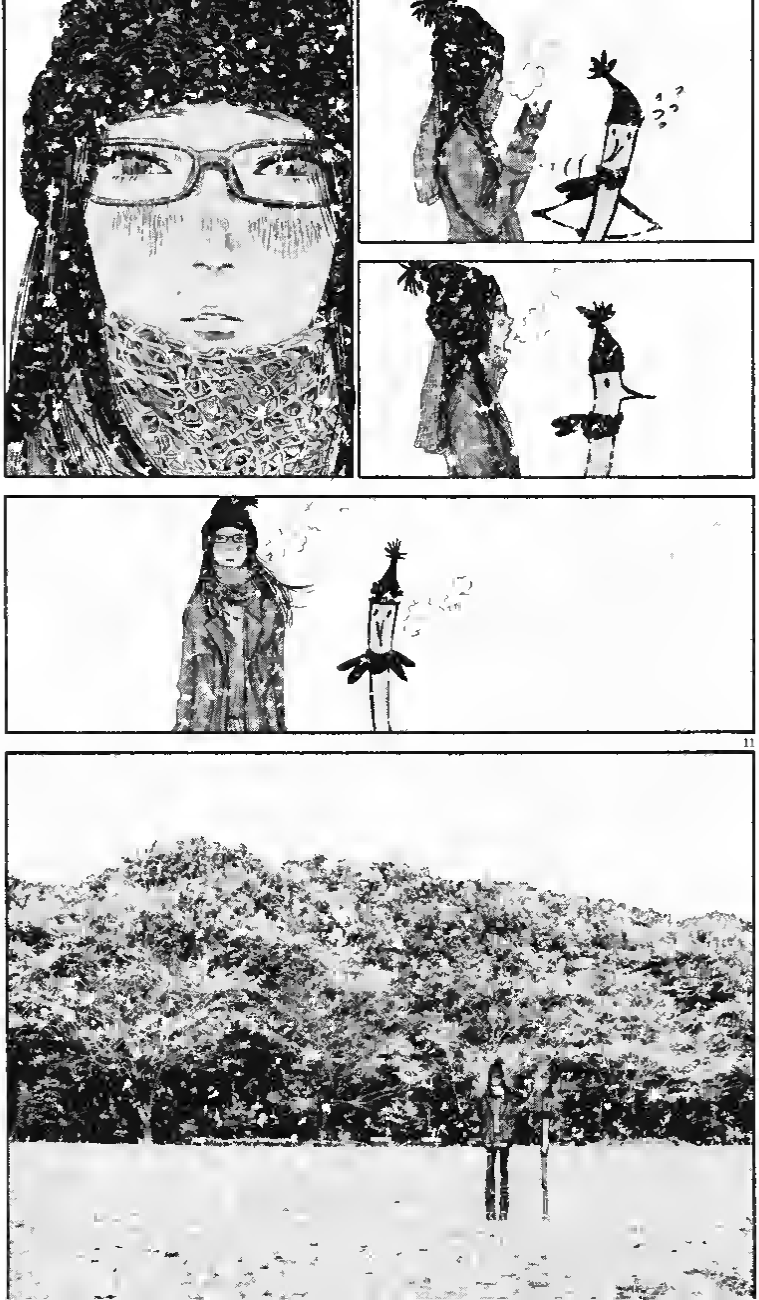

主要私立大入試日程(後期)
◇2月◇



バレンタイン
よし

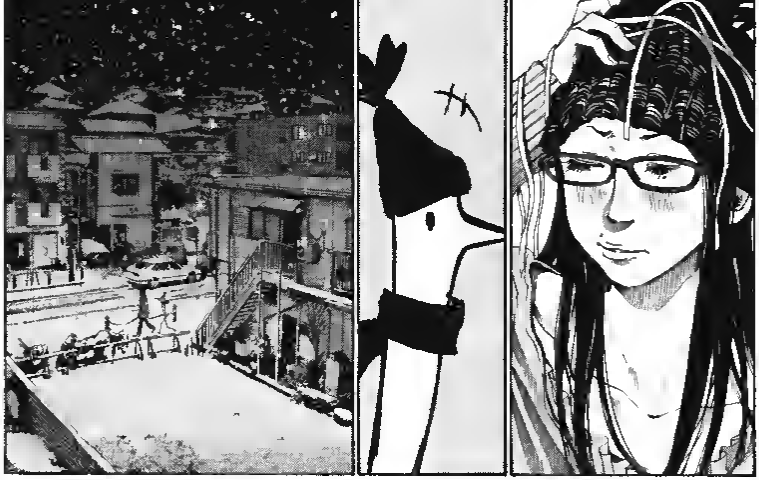
4

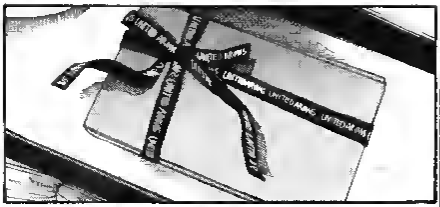


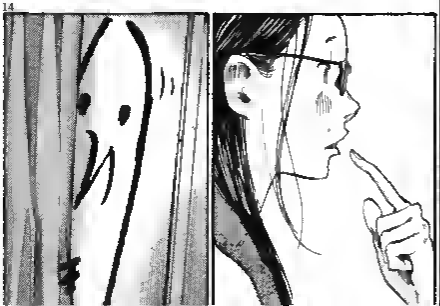


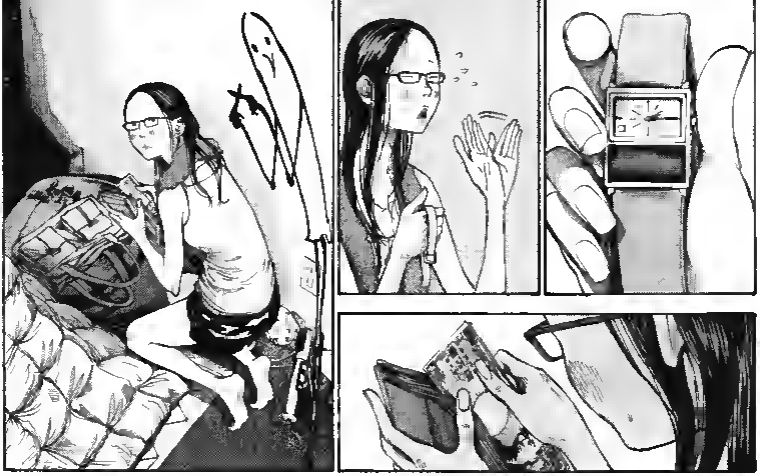
GIGA
GIGA

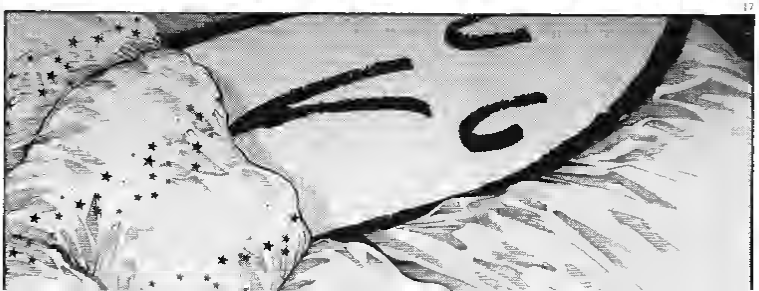
HAPPY BIRTHDAY
SACHI











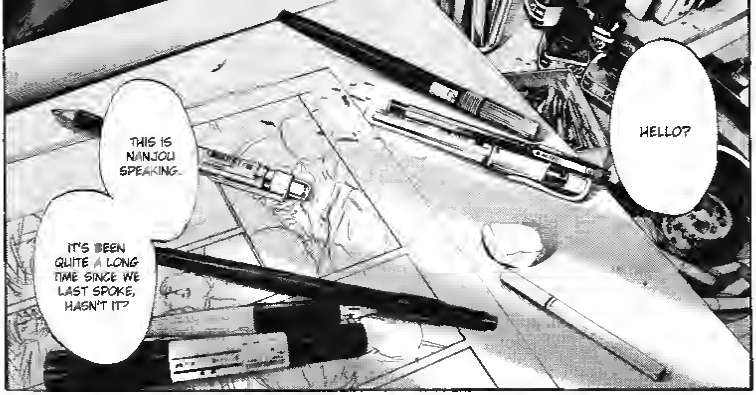
Punpun!
Hey, over here!

Don't you go and be all happy like you're some normal well-adjusted person, you worthless trash.

I just know long do you think this little fairy-tale of yours will continue on for?

1 YEAR LATER

Chapter 89


HELLO?
THIS IS NANJOU SPEAKING.
IT'S BEEN QUITE A LONG TIME SINCE WE LAST SPOKE, HASN'T IT?

I'M SORRY TO CALL AT SUCH A BUSY TIME OF THE YEAR BUT
YOU ARE FREE TO TALK RIGHT NOW, YES?

WELL YOU SEE I'VE BEEN STARTING TO DRAW SOME MANGA AGAIN
YES, I'M STILL WORKING AT IT
I'VE BEEN THINKING OF GIVING IT ANOTHER SHOT. STARTING OVER AGAIN FROM SCRATCH.

2

THE MONTH WAS DECEMBER, AND JUST LIKE THE YEAR BEFORE, THE PEOPLE WERE BUSTLING BACK AND FORTH THROUGH THE TOWN, AS IF TRYING TO MAKE UP FOR ALL THE TIME THAT PASSED BY NOW THAT THE YEAR WAS AT AN END.

A YEAR HAD ALREADY GONE BY SINCE PUNPUN SET OUT TO LIVE ALONE.

HE HAD CHANGED QUITE A BIT.

BUT UNLIKE A YEAR AGO, PUNPUN HAD LEARNED TO FIT RIGHT IN AMONG THE CROWD BY MATCHING THE BUSTLE OF THE CITY.

DVDビデオレンタル
ビックンビックンランド
わに夫
年中無休10:00~26:00
WELL DONE, BOTH OF YOU.
PUNPUN.
MIMURA

PUNPUN, THE EDITOR AGREED TO TAKE A LOOK AY MY MANU-SCRIPT THIS NEW YEAR'S DAY.
SHADDUP
WHOA! WHAT'S WITH THOSE DARK SHADOWS UNDER YOUR EYES?
SO CAN YOU HELP ME FINISH UP THE FINAL TOUCH-UPS ON IT?
THEY'RE RUINING YOUR BEAUTY!

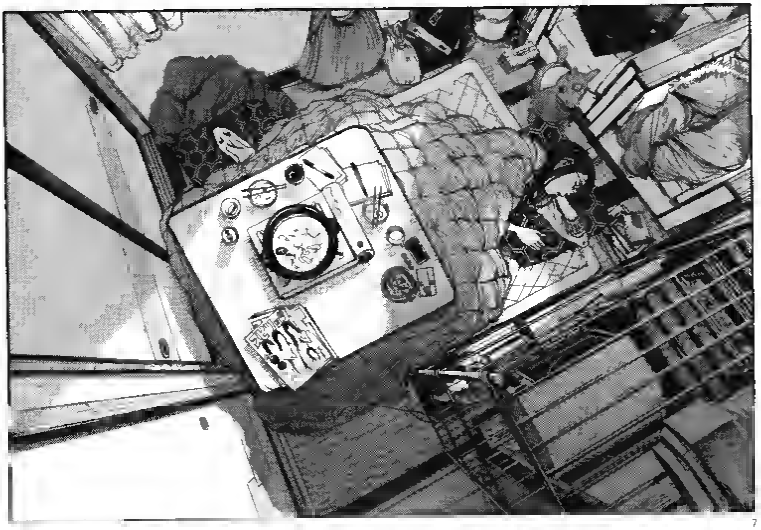
OH, THAT'S RIGHT.

IF THIS ENDS UP GETTING CHOSEN FOR SOME AWARD,

"NEVER MIND, IT'S NOTHING."

病魔退散
厄除祈願

I wish for everybody in this world to be unhappy
Kanjou Dashi
I wish for everybody in this world to be happy
Otsudera Pumpuki



TOEI30

Happy New Year
We'd like to wish you all a happy new year and announce our marriage.
I wish you'd get divorced already (haha)
Sincerely
Komushi and Miyuki

I KNEW WE SHOULD'VE LEFT EARLIER!
I JUST HOPE WE WON'T ARRIVE LATE...
CHECK IF THE MANUSCRIPT'S IN THE FOLDER JUST IN CASE.
HOLD ON A SEC!

HM...
YOU THINK I'M NERVOUS?
WELL YOU COULDN'T BE MORE WRONG!
I'M ONLY EXCITED, THAT'S ALL

HUH?
OWW, MY STOMACH...
HEEEY

MARINE LIKE
FLORTING
THE HIGH TIDE
THIS IS THE USED GOODS RECYCLING TRUCK
HELLO CITIZENS
SEKI
PLEASE FEEL FREE TO THROW AWAY YOUR UNUSED COMPUTERS, BICYCLES, RADIOS,
AND OTHER SUCH UNWANTED JUNK ON THE BACK OF THIS TRUCK.
HELLO?
I SAID HEY!!!
SEKI!

I AIN'T GOING.
IT'S NOT LIKE THERE'S ANYBODY I WANT TO SEE AGAIN.
DID YOU HEAR?
ABOUT THE COMING-OF-AGE CEREMONY* BEING HELD NEXT WEEK?

*Seijin shiki: a ceremony held for Japanese people when they turn 20

MAN,
YOU REALLY HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT, HAVE YOU SHIMIZU...
YOU SHOULD JUST MAKE SOME NEW FRIENDS NOW THAT YOU'RE IN UNIVERSITY...
DON'T JUST HANG AROUND WITH ME ALL THE TIME. BE A LITTLE MORE INDEPENDENT, WILL YA...

STOP TAKING EVERYTHING I SAY SO SERIOUSLY
...WHAT.
I WAS JUST SAYING STUFF...

...AH.

SHIMIZU,
BEHIND YOU

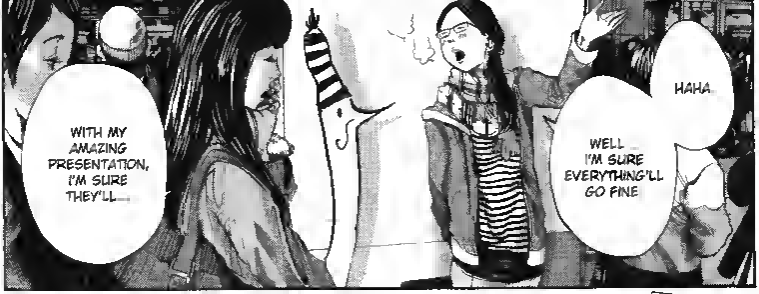
YES, HELLO?
I'M AT SHINJUKU RIGHT NOW.
HM? OH NO, I DON'T MIND AT ALL.
YES, ALRIGHT. THANK YOU

THAT WAS THE EDITOR.
HE CALLED TO DELAY THE MEETING BY 1 HOUR.
GOOD THING WE DIDN'T COME TOO EARLY
WHEW

LISTEN TO ME WELL, FELLOW CITIZENS!
WE ARE OUTRAGED!
AND THE REASON FOR OUR INDIGNATION
MUST BE SPOKEN! IT WOULD BE ALMOST CRIMINAL NOT TO LET THE WORLD KNOW!

BUT WOW
CAN'T BELIEVE A YEAR AND A HALF JUST FLEW BY WHILE DRAWING IT

IN OUR HYSTERICAL SOCIETY THAT INCREASINGLY VALUES WOMEN OVER MEN, WE ARE THE VICTIMS!
THE ONLY SALVATION IN THIS CRISIS IS TO MINGLE WITH PURE 2D MAIDENS!
O' THE BLISS THAT IS 2D! AND MORESO ARE 2D PANTIES! HOW I WANT TO SEE THEM, DRAW THEM, AND TOUCH THEM!
THUS, WE HERE VOW TO NEVER LET OUR HEARTS SWAYED BY THE VILE IMPURITY THAT IS 3D!


WITH MY AMAZING PRESENTATION, I'M SURE THEY'LL...
HAHA...
WELL... I'M SURE EVERYTHING'LL GO FINE

WHO'RE YOU?
AH...

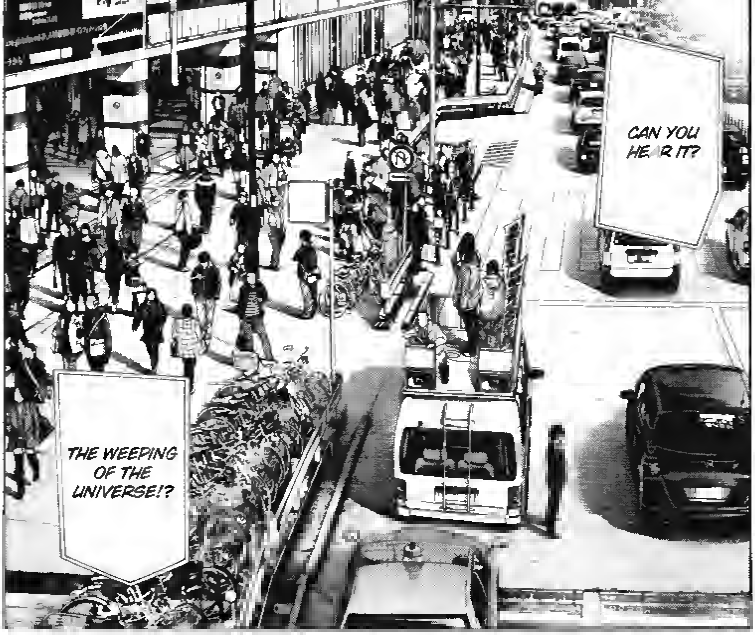
AH...
W-
AH, LET GO OF THAT MIKE!

JR新宿駅

GOOD VIBRATIONS.

I,
HAVE DECIDED TO RUN FOR GOVERNOR OF TOKYO!
THANK YOU, EVERY-ONE!
PLEASE CALL ME PEGASUS!

IN HALF A YEAR FROM NOW,
THE WORLD SHALL COME TO AN END!!!


CAN YOU HEAR IT?
THE WEEPING OF THE UNIVERSE!?

WOW...

IT'S...
BEEN A REAL LONG TIME, HASN'T IT...

——おやすみプンプン❽・完——

Oyasumi Punpun 8
Asano Inio

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Satou Satsuki

Cg Assistants:
Saitou Hisashi
Kumatsuto
Uehara Yuu

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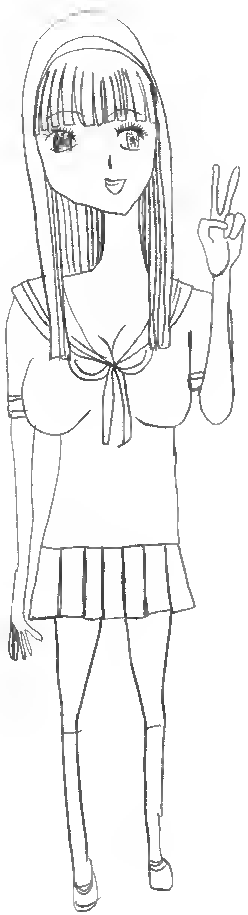
Scanned by Anonymous

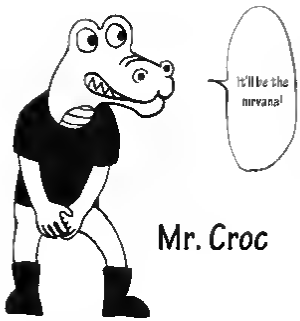


次巻も面白いよ!!

The next volume will be lots of fun!!

◎第９巻は２０１１年夏頃発売予定です。

Yattsuke-ko



Mr. Croc